

Fishers of all ages should get a thrill out of the "Let's Go Fishing Show," beginning Friday in Collinsville.

Page 2A

The Press-Record waxes nostalgic on the nearly-completed year in an editorial.

Page 4A

# Granite City Press-Record

VOLUME 95, NUMBER 51

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 31, 1997

(USPS228-160) FIFTY CENTS

## Police to crack down on holiday shooting

By Ellen Ellick  
and Scott Cousins  
Staff writers

Welcome the New Year with noisemakers, resolutions, good friends and cork-popping enthusiasm. The police will only smile.

Fire bullets into the air, however, and a police chief might be the one arresting you.

In Venice, Police Chief James Newsome said he planned to have extra patrols, and was planning a "zero tol-

erance" toward New Year's Eve gunfire.

Last year, an 18-year-old Madison High School student was killed by what police believe was a stray bullet fired by revelers.

Tyrell James of Venice was sitting in a pick-up truck in the 300 block of Baucum Avenue at about 12:17 a.m. when a bullet went through the rear window and struck him in the head.

James — who was wearing a bullet-proof vest at the time — was pronounced dead at a St. Louis hospital several hours

later.

"We think it was accidental," Newsome said Tuesday. "No suspects were ever found."

"There were so many people out there shooting," he added. St. Louis Police Chief Ron Henderson will be part of a beefed-up force patrolling the streets New Year's Eve as part of the "Fun Without Guns" campaign.

He and other officers are trying to rid St. Louis of an unwelcome tradition: random gunfire to usher in the New Year.

"This practice is not only dangerous, it's illegal," Henderson said, noting that in previous years random gunfire has injured and even killed innocent bystanders.

"I don't know where people think these bullets go, but they all come back down," he said.

Last year, the first year of the "Fun Without Guns" campaign, officers arrested 34 persons New Year's Eve for discharging a firearm in the city limits. For most, that meant a

(See GUNS, Page 3A)

### Facts about stray bullets

- A solid projectile from a handgun or rifle, if fired in the air, will fall at a return speed of 210 mph.
- Bullets fired horizontally from a pistol will travel more than a mile.
- Rifle bullets or slugs fired horizontally will travel more than a mile.
- Projectiles fired horizontally from a shotgun will travel 400 to 500 yards.

—From the Metropolitan St. Louis Police Department.

## Village to pay more for housing

By Scott Cousins  
Staff writer

The Pontoon Beach police department's ongoing problem of finding places to put prisoners may become a little more expensive.

The Madison City Council was expected to act Tuesday evening on a proposal to institute a \$30 per-day fee for prisoners housed in its jail cells.

Pontoon Beach does not have its own cells, and houses prisoners in Madison and Venice.

Madison Police Chief Steve Skoklo cited the increasing cost of caring for prisoners. "This amount will include feeding of the prisoners," Skoklo said in a memorandum to Mayor John Hamm. "The arresting agency will still be responsible for all other charges incurred by the prisoners, as well as the transportation of their prisoners to court or elsewhere."

The proposal would affect only those agencies and departments that do not have their own holding facilities. For the Madison Police Department, that would apply primarily to prisoners from Pontoon Beach.

Madison, Venice and Granite City occasionally house prisoners for each other.

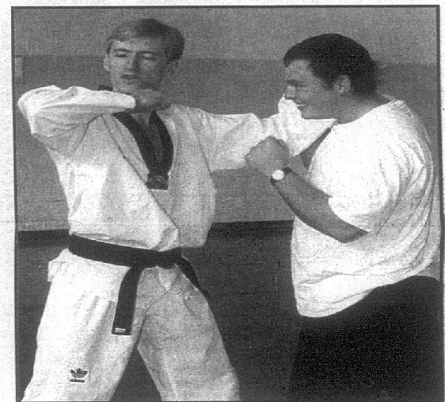
Venice charges approximately \$25 per day to hold prisoners, said Police Chief James Newsome.

Recently, Newsome said his department has been housing a large number of prisoners from the U.S. Immigration Department.

(See JAILS, Page 3A)



Granite City High School student Rebecca Talley, left, reacts as Tae Kwon Do instructor Steve McArthur demonstrates how to fend off an attacker's hold by moving in and controlling the hold. At right, McArthur uses GCHS student Roy Taylor to help him demonstrate a forearm strike in the school's self-defense class.



Staff photos by JOHN FRESE

## Students receive different kind of training

By Scott Kelly  
Staff writer

Discipline. Flexibility. Strength.

If they study and work properly, Granite City High School students should have those concepts down pat through special Tae Kwon Do and kickboxing classes.

"We've never done anything like this before," said Terry Papa, who teaches physical education.

"We've never done anything like this before."  
Terry Papa

Papa and fellow teacher Linda Hill poke with Steve McArthur, a former GCHS student, and Ed Mitchell, a longtime martial-arts instructor, about teaching students the martial arts.

McArthur agreed to teach a Tae Kwon Do class, and Mitchell a kickboxing

class. "All through high school I did martial arts. We wanted to show students something not traditionally taught in high school," McArthur said.

"It's very good for the kids," Papa said. "It emphasizes discipline, flexi-

bility; the strength that they're developing is phenomenal.

The students are from all grade levels. They actually make no contact with one another while running through drills and practices. The class is designed along the same lines as a U.S. Army basic-training course.

Before the class began, some of the students could hardly raise their legs.

"Now look at them," Papa said. Stu-

(See KICK, Page 5A)

## Man charged with battery after altercation

A local man was charged following an altercation in a Venice bar Sunday morning.

Deuntram Mosby, 24, of the 200 block of Terry, Madison, was charged with one count of misdemeanor battery following an incident at Club Venice, located at 740 Broadway according to police reports, at about 2

### VENICE

a.m. a woman reported that she had been assaulted at the club by Mosby.

She said she and another woman were sitting at the bar talking when Mosby allegedly began cursing the other woman.

He then allegedly hit the victim with his fist, knocking her to the floor, and then started choking her.

Bystanders reportedly pulled Mosby off the victim, who then went to the police station to file a complaint.

Mosby, but he had been ejected.

(See CHARGE, Page 3A)

## 'Walk' set for spring

### PARK DISTRICT

By Scott Kelly  
Staff writer

If you want to memorialize yourself in stone, you'd better act quick.

Time is fast running out for anyone who wants to purchase a brick for the Walk of Memories in Wilson Park.

The Walk of memories is intended to be a beautiful and lasting testament to donors, supporters and friends of the Granite City Park District.

"This has been one of our most popular programs," said David Polivick, parks and recreation director.

The park district has awarded the contract for the walk's construction to Pipton Construction from Trenton, Ill., he said. The project is slated to be completed by April 1.

The park district will continue to sell bricks, which will be added to the walk later on. The walk will be constructed to allow adding of more bricks in the future.

"The total project cost is \$50,000. \$28,000 of that was done through (brick) sales."

David Polivick  
director

"The total project cost is \$50,000," Polivick said. "The remaining project money will come from capital improvement funds."

A sign at the Delmar Park entrance lists the names of all the individuals and groups that have purchased bricks.

The color-coordinated bricks will have the names or commemorations of special occasions inscribed on them.

A standard, 4-by-8 inch brick is available for \$75

(See WALK, Page 2A)


## In the Press-Record

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### 5 FULLER'S FORECAST

John Fuller, Meteorologist, KSDK NewsChannel 5  
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**WEATHER NOTES**

LAST YEAR	THIS YEAR	RECORD H	RECORD L	HEATING	PRECIP
HI 59° LO 38°	HI 59° LO 38°	70° IN 1985	12° IN 1974	10 20°	42.5"
DRIZZLE	DRIZZLE	SUNSET 4:51 PM	W 10 11 PM	10 20°	42.5"
NOVEMBER 3, 1997	NOVEMBER 3, 1997				

## Salute

### Donald Haddix

Army Spec. Donald W. Haddix has graduated from basic military training at Fort Leonard Wood, Mo., where his training included drill, ceremonies, weapons, map reading, tactics, first aid and Army history.

He is the son of Donald R. Haddix and Lanette D. Haddix, both of Granite City.

His wife, Mary, is the daughter of Tonya E. Monroe of Granite City.

Haddix graduated in 1993 from Granite City High School and in 1997 from Southern Illinois University at Carbondale.



## NEWS IN REVIEW

Editor's note: News in Review provides a summary of some of the past week's local stories. This column is intended for out-of-town readers who do not receive the Sunday and Wednesday Press-Record/Journals.

### Family must endure second fatal crash

Just hours before the funeral of his granddaughter, who was killed in an automobile crash, Joseph Urkwich died in a two-car accident near Edwardsville.

Urkwich, 55, of Edwardsville was on his way to services for Natasha Urkwich on Saturday when his 1990 Mitsubishi Eclipse collided with a 1992 Chevrolet Blazer at about 10 a.m. on Highway 159.

Family members were gathered at the Urkwich home on Springfield to travel to the funeral of Natasha Urkwich, killed one week ago in a car crash.

Natasha, 9, a kindergarten student at Worthen School in Granite City, was killed when the car she was riding in collided with another vehicle on Horseshoe Lake Road about a half-mile east of Highway 159.

Services for both Natasha and Joseph Urkwich will be at 1 p.m. today, Dec. 31, at Irwin Chapel, 3960 Maryville Road, with the Rev. Anthony Cook officiating. There will be a double interment at Sunset Hill Memorial Estates in Glen Carbon following the services.

### Effects on wetlands discussed

A public hearing on the proposed expansion of the city of Madison's tax increment financing district drew about 25 people Dec. 23.

Mayor John Hamm, City Attorney Casper Nighohossian, and Alan Orbals, executive director of the Southwestern Illinois Development Authority answered questions about the proposed changes in the 1/4-hour meeting.

Questions ranged from the use of "quick-take" to the expansion's effect on wetlands.

If approved by the council in January, the expansion will almost double the TIF district.

City and development officials said the original 615-acre district—covering Gateway International Raceway and Gateway Midstate Truck Plaza—has been a great success.

The expansion is in two tracts. The first tract includes mostly open ground on both sides of Highway 203 and Bend Road up to Harrison Street. The second tract is northeast of the intersection of the two roads.

### New bylaws set to kick in

Stronger penalties for criminals who commit sex crimes against children and the establishment of a three-tier system for drivers licenses are among the many new laws that become effective Jan. 1.

Teenagers will now be subject to more stringent driving standards under the new system.

Senate Bill 5 contains a "light of day" provision to allow prior evidence of sexual offenses to be used in court against someone accused of criminal sexual assault against a child and other sex crimes.

Senate Bill 6 creates the Sexually Violent Person Commitment Act and sets up procedures for the civil commitment of sexually violent people after they have completed their prison sentence but still pose a threat to the public.

Senate Bill 7, called "three strikes and you're out," means more time behind bars for dangerous sex offenders. This law imposes a sentence of natural life in prison for offenders convicted a second time for aggravated criminal sexual assault or predatory criminal sexual assault of a child.

### Police nab violators

Three people found out that running red lights and stop signs in the city of Madison was not a good idea early on Sunday.

The three were charged with multiple violations in two separate incidents.

James W. Wilks, 46, of Grenzer, Madison, was charged with two counts each of resisting a peace officer and disobeying a traffic control device, and one count each of having no valid drivers' license, fleeing or attempting to elude police, operating an uninsured motor vehicle, and reckless driving.

In an unrelated incident, David M. Wilson, 28, of the 2300 block of Elizabeth in Alton, and Archie S. Stewart, 25, of 3100 block of West Chain of Rocks Road in Granite City, were charged following a traffic stop.

Wilson was charged with operating an uninsured motor vehicle, disobeying a traffic control device and unlawful possession of drug paraphernalia. He also had an outstanding warrant for failure to appear charged with illegal transportation of alcohol.

Additional charges of illegal possession of controlled substances may be filed pending lab results.

Stewart was charged with illegal possession of drug paraphernalia and illegal possession of alcohol.

He could also face additional charges of illegal possession of a controlled substance and illegal possession of cannabis.

## NEWSBRIEFS

### Metro East

**HUMAN RIGHTS:** The Metro East Regional Human Rights Authority of the Illinois Guardian and Advocacy Commission will meet at 7 p.m. Jan. 8 at the Illinois Department of Transportation, Regional Conference Room, 1100 East Port Plaza, Collinsville.

If you believe the rights of a person with disabilities are being violated, you may report this at the meeting or by calling 462-4561. All complaints are kept confidential.

**VOLUNTEER FAIR:** The first Southwestern Illinois Volunteer Fair will be held Saturday, Jan. 31, at St. Clair Square in Fairview Heights. Registration deadline is Friday, Jan. 15 for those nonprofit organizations that wish to reserve space at the event. For more information, please call Suzanne Kutter-Sibert at the SUE Kimmel Leadership Center, 692-3472.

**FREE FLOWERING TREES:** Ten free flowering trees will be given to each person who joins the National Arbor Day Foundation during January.

The free trees are part of the non-profit Foundation's Trees for America campaign.

The 10 trees are two white flowering dogwoods, two flowering crabapples, two golden raindrops, two Washington Hawthorn, and two American redbuds.

The compact trees were selected for planting in large or small spaces, John Rosenow, the foundation's president, said. They will give homes the beauty of pink, white, and yellow flowers and also provide winter berries and nesting sites for songbirds.

The trees will be shipped post-paid at the right time for planting between Feb. 1 and May 31 with enclosed planting instructions. The 6- to 12-inch trees are guaranteed to grow or they will be replaced free of charge.

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## NEWS Fishing show gears up for this weekend

Gateway Convention Center in Collinsville will once again be the site of the Let's Go Fishing Show. The fifth annual event is scheduled for Jan. 23 and 24.

Show exhibitors present for sale a wide selection of fishing tackle, accessories and fishing boats. Resorts, destinations and organizations representing fishing activities and interests are also among the exhibitors. Every booth at the event has some connection to fishing.

As a celebration of the fifth anniversary of the event, show promoters have arranged for the giveaway of a Lowe Alumina Delta Jon Boat with a MotorGuide 750 Trolling Motor with gator mount. Show visitors, 18 and over, will be able to register to win the boat and motor at the display of the Gateway Bass N Gals. The boat is from The Boat Place of Belleville and the trolling motor is from Tri-State Trolling Motor of Hazelwood, Mo.

Among the tackle and accessory exhibitors returning are: Rodney's Bait & Tackle, Qualls Rod & Reel Repair, Mad Dog Bait, JD Lures, Cottonmouth Lures, Bill's Bait & Crayfish, Quality Fiberglass, B & L Boat Covers, Taxidermy Creations, Carver's Spinners and Bob Forder Lures. Nearly 100 exhibitors are featured in the event, which has become one of the most popular shows of its kind in the Midwest.

For the first time at the show, there will be an exhibit dedicated to fly fishing. It will be hosted by Feather-Craft Fly Fishing of St. Louis. On sale will be St. Croix Fly Rods, Cortland Reels, Polarfleece clothing and various fly-tying materials. There will also be a continuous demonstration of fly-tying.

Back for the third year in a row will be a large display of antique lures and fishing equipment by members of the National Fishing Lure Collectors Club. Several members of the club are combining their efforts into putting together a display of antique tackle, rods and motors that is expected to cover 10 tables. Free estimates on old lures will be offered by club members. Show visitors are encouraged to bring in old lures that they would like to sell.

A strong lineup of seminars and personalities is again planned. Featured are some of the top names in tournament

fishing. Clark Boat & Motors will sponsor the appearance on Friday of B.A.S.S. and Ranger Boats pro David Fritts.

Pro anglers at the show on Saturday include four-time BASS Masters Classic Champion Rick Clunn, sponsored by The Fishin' Hole and Tracker Boats. On Saturday there will also be seminars by emerging star Steve Browning. He is sponsored by Carlsonackle Company and is making his first appearance at the show. Rounding out Saturday's lineup will be longtime favorite Harold Allen, sponsored by Mariner Outboards and Nameoki Marine.

Sunday's highlight will be the appearance of the 1997 B.A.S.S. Angler of the Year, Davy Hite, sponsored by S & S Marine and Javelin Boats. In addition to the pros, there are other seminars being offered by regional experts and guides on fishing techniques and favorite fishing places. On Friday Mike Roux will be sponsored by the Outdoor Guide and talking about Spring Fishing on Mark Twain Lake. Saturday's seminar will include KMOX Radio's Bill Seibel and Tony Albright "Fishing in the Cottonmouth Lures Team discussing crappie fishing in Southern Illinois; Tim Kenken, outdoor writer for the St. Louis Post-Dispatch with "Fast Action on Pan Fish;" and Hank Reiffels of the St. Louis Post-Dispatch will be giving tips on fly fishing for smallmouth bass. On Sunday, visitors can hear "Winter Fishing" from outdoors writer Tim Huffman, in addition to seminars by pro anglers Harold Allen and Davy Hite.

On Friday only, the first 100 visitors through the doors will receive a free copy of the Outdoor Guide. This is a publication that gives fishing and hunting information geared specifically to the region. For the first time, all children 12 and under will be admitted free. Adult admission will be \$4 at the door. You can save \$1 off each adult ticket by picking up discount coupons in advance at participating boat dealers. Parking is free.

Show hours are 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. Friday, Jan. 23; 10 a.m. to 9 p.m. Saturday; and 11 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Sunday. For information, call 314-355-1236.

### Madison men among suspects

A burglary suspect likely fell into a Collinsville police officer's hands early Monday morning when he was caught after breaking into two cars.

Collinsville police were called to the 600 block of Idlewood at 4:10 a.m. Monday when a neighbor reported seeing three suspicious males, detained. Featured are some of the top names in tournament

When Officer Richard Barrett drove up, two suspects ran away.

A third, David Granger, 17, of the 700 block of Arrowhead,

might have escaped, too — but he slipped and fell in the snow, Carpenter said. Barrett arrested him.

Granger allegedly had some items from the two burglaries on his person when arrested. When police went to Granger's home, they found the other two suspects there and more of the stolen property.

"They all three admitted to the burglaries," Carpenter said.

Later Monday, Granger and his companions — Carlos A. Coleman, 18, and Terry T. Watson, 19, both of Madison — were each charged with two counts of burglary.

All three were being held Tuesday in the Madison County Jail.

(See SUSPECTS, Page 3A)

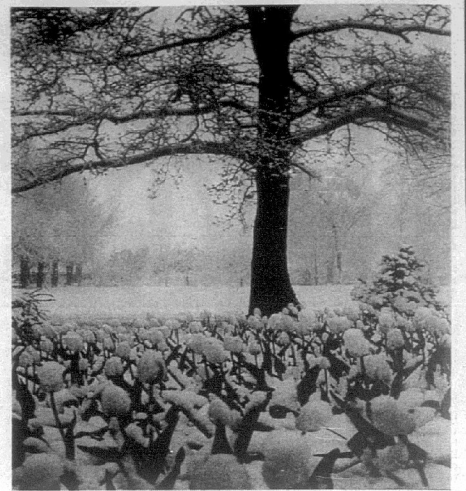


Photo courtesy GRANITE CITY PARK DISTRICT

This picture, taken during last April's snow, shows the tulip garden at the Walk of Memories location in Wilson Park.

### Walk

(Continued from Page 1A) with three lines of print, 12 characters per line. A larger, 8-by-8 inch brick was added in the fall, for \$140. The larger brick has space for

five lines of print with 12 characters per line.

To order a Walk of Memories brick stop by or call the Wilson Park office at 877-3059.

### Bus campaign successful

By Kimberly Haas Staff writer

A three-day campaign to curb the number of motorists passing school buses has proven successful for local police departments.

From Dec. 15-17, local police departments had officers either riding on or following behind school buses in an effort to stop motorists from passing the bus and causing potential harm to a child.

The three-day initiative,

sponsored by the Southern Illinois Police Chiefs Association, was in cooperation with school bus owners and operators.

Local participating police departments include Albers, Belleville, Bethalto, Collinsville, Edwardsville, Fairmont City, Fairview Heights, Froburg, Granite City, Greenville, Highland, Maryville, Nashville, O'Fallon, and Roxana. Also, the Illinois State Police and Monroe County Sheriff's Department were involved.

(See BUS, Page 3A)

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## THE LAW AND YOU

By RICK REED  
Attorney At Law

If an employee violates a safety rule and is injured on the job, can he still receive workers' compensation benefits? In a recent case, a 39-year-old pipe fitter was working on a scaffold 70 to 75 feet in the air as part of a crew installing downspouting in a power plant when he fell to his death. The arbitrator denied the claim for benefits because, at the time of the fall, the worker was in direct violation of a specific safety rule. The rule required the use of safety belts, and the worker was not using his belt when he fell to his death. The decision of the arbitrator was appealed.

The issue in this case is whether the knowing violation of a safety rule which causes injury removes an employee from the scope of his employment. Illinois law provides that if such a violation takes the employee entirely out of the sphere of his employment, then it cannot be said that the accident arose out of the employment, and no compensation can be recovered. If, however, the employee does not put himself out of the sphere of his employment when he violates the rule, he is only guilty of negligence and is therefore not barred from recovery.

In the case noted above, the Appellate Court felt that the decedent was performing the duties for which he was hired. He was not engaged in any work activity which was unauthorized by his employer.

For these reasons, the Appellate Court reversed the decision of the Industrial Commission and awarded death benefits in this case. The Court felt that the claimant was where he was supposed to be, doing what he was hired to do, even though he was performing his duties in a negligent manner. Thus, the violation occurred within the course of the claimant's employment, thereby entitling his dependents to workers' compensation benefits.

In another recent case, a janitor inhaled fumes from sulfuric acid while cleaning a urinal. This was part of his job description. The inhalation of fumes resulted in his death. There was evidence the employee was forbidden to use sulfuric acid. The Supreme Court in this case upheld compensation for the death on the basis that the act of cleaning the urinal was in the course of his employment.

## RICK REED

Attorney At Law

Gahokia  
1408 Crockett Jackson  
332-0070

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3723 Nameoki Rd.  
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## Youth say goodbye to gang tattoos

By Barbara Ponder  
Staff writer

The laser snaps, crackles and pops.

Dr. Edmond B. Cabbabe traces the lines of a star tattoo etched beneath the eye of a 17-year-old former gang member. "I did some of them, and my friends did the rest," said the young man of his 13 gang tattoos. "I thought that I'd like them at the time. (Now) I don't like them and I want to go out and get a job."

"Joe," who asked that his real name not be used, is a rehabilitated gang member living in Madison County who is reclaiming his life and his skin, with Cabbabe's help.

"They can quit the gang, but the tattoos are still on them," said Cabbabe, a plastic surgeon who removes former gang members' tattoos in his DePaul Health Center offices.

"With the tattoos on their arms or on the visible part of their face, nobody will employ them," Cabbabe said. "Even if they get employed, once they (the employers) find out what the tattoos mean, they get kicked out. If they fall into a different gang member's hand, they can be hurt."

Cabbabe began the tattoo

removal project in 1996. It is an outgrowth of the Stop Violence Before It Starts program Cabbabe developed while president of the St. Louis Metropolitan Medical Society. The society continues to operate the program to curb violence, particularly that perpetrated by adolescents and gangs.

Cabbabe donates his time to remove gang tattoos from patients aged 14 to 20. The society pays for laser supplies, provided at a discount by Medical Alliance Inc.

"At this point I'm not taking any new kids until we get a new source of income to provide for the laser company's services," Cabbabe said.

Applicants may write, not telephone, Cabbabe at Plastic Surgery Consultants Ltd., DePaul Health Center, 1227 DePaul Drive, Suite 301-S, Bridgeton 63044. Applicants should state their name, types and number of tattoos, and gang affiliation. Cabbabe will contact applicants when openings become available.

During Joe's treatment, his muscles sometimes twitched as Cabbabe redrew the tattoos dotting his body with the high-powered beam of light. Occasionally, Joe uttered a tightly suppressed moan.

On the average four to six laser treatments are required for removal. Each treatment shatters the tattoo pigment into small pieces. The body naturally absorbs and eliminates those particles.

"When the pigment molecule is large, there is nothing inside the body that can remove it and that's why it stays," Cabbabe said.

Cabbabe rarely reflects on the meaning or design of the tattoos as he works on a patient.

"As I go by and laser them, all I am thinking of is trying to get them out of the room real quick because it hurts," Cabbabe said. "So these kids are really in for the long term. They know it's going to be a painful process, but they want to have it done."

Cabbabe said common gang tattoos include: religious symbols, like crosses or Stars of David; numbers, such as 28 and 60; initials referring to the gang name; swastikas; and pentacles.

Donations for the tattoo removal project may be directed to the St. Louis Society for Medical and Scientific Research, 3839 Lindell Blvd. St. Louis 63108.



BAC photo by LINDA GASS BURGESS

## Hello, dolly

Rose Bergrader, left, and Nancy Wickham, both of Granite City, apply trim to the dolls they made in the Pillowcase Doll workshop offered through Belleville Area College's Saturday Experience program at the Granite City Campus. In the class, students learned to make dolls from old pillowcases. The program offers noncredit workshops throughout the year, ranging from arts and crafts to computers.

## No suspects in Sauget murder case

By Jason White  
Staff writer

No suspect has been identified in the Debra Lynn Abeln murder case, and finding one may prove difficult, police said Monday.

At a press conference, Illinois State Police Master Sgt. Dennis Kuba said evidence collected from the family and phone tips are the best chances of catching the masked gunman who murdered Abeln, 44, in front of her 12-year-old son and husband, Richard Abeln, 43, of Sappington in south St. Louis County.

The gunman, described as a short black man, stole about \$5,000 worth of jewelry and a small amount of money from the Abelns after they entered their 1987 GMC Yukon sport-utility vehicle at about 6 p.m. Saturday.

The family was getting ready to leave the parking lot of Richard Abeln's business, CR and Aviation, at St. Louis Downtown-Parks Airport in Sauget.

The suspect grabbed Abeln, pointed his shotgun at her and shot her twice in the chest. She died at 6:44 p.m. in St. Mary's Hospital in East St. Louis.

"They did everything he requested," Kuba said. "She even assured him that the jewelry she was giving him was valuable. She completely cooperated, and he shot her."

Kuba said Abeln hesitated when the gunman ordered her out of the car because she was concerned about her son.

"The son was in the back seat within a foot of his mother," he said. "The Abelns have two other children, ages 15 and 21."

*"She completely cooperated, and he shot her."*

Sgt. Dennis Kuba  
Illinois State Police

Kuba also said the state police cannot release transcripts of the 911 call the 12-year-old made to the Sauget Police Department even though one local television station already obtained a copy from the department.

"The kids have a very difficult time with this," Kuba said. "The family is continuing to cooperate with us, and they're very concerned that we find the person who did this."

Kuba said catching the killer will be more difficult without knowing what he looks like.

He said pawn shops are one major area where the state police and the Sauget Police Department are focusing their investigation.

Kuba told reporters that Richard Abeln is not considered a likely suspect although no one has been ruled out in the case.

On Monday, a CIT Aviation representative said the family had asked employees not to comment.

Employees at nearby Midcoast Aviation also had no comment, but did say no one at work had been talking about the murder.

Anyone with information is asked to call 348-3779.

## Suspects

(Continued from Page 2A)  
ty Jail in lieu of \$25,000 bail each.

Two cars — a 1984 Oldsmobile and a 1994 Nissan — had been burglarized. A pair of speakers had been taken from the Oldsmobile.

A window in the Nissan had been smashed. A cellular telephone and compact disc player had been taken. The total loss for that vehicle was estimated at \$1,000.

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## Bi-State offers free bus rides on New Year's Eve

In the spirit of traffic safety, free rides are again being offered tonight, New Year's Eve, on all scheduled Bi-State bus routes and MetroLink from 9 p.m. until the end of service, it was announced by Thomas J. Irwin, Bi-State's executive director.

This service, offered by the funding jurisdictions that contract with Bi-State — St. Louis County and City, and St. Clair and Madison County Transit Districts in Illinois — is provided as an alternative to driving for those who plan an evening out on New Year's Eve. MetroLink will operate until

1:30 a.m. on New Year's Eve with trains running at 10 minute intervals. On New Year's Eve, bus service will end at regular scheduled times for weekday service.

In making the announcement, Irwin said, "It's important to have a safe way to get to and from your destination on New Year's Eve. Bi-State is an excellent transportation alternative."

Bi-State also announced the holiday season schedule for MetroLink, Bi-State buses, Call-A-Ride and Transit information. MetroLink, Bi-State buses and Call-A-Ride will

operate on a Sunday schedule on New Year's Day.

Bi-State's Transit Information hours follow:  
Dec. 31 — 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Jan. 1 — Closed  
Call-A-Ride's reservation hours will operate at the regularly scheduled time New Year's Day from 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

The Call-A-Ride cancellation line (289-5230) will operate also at the regularly scheduled time from 4:30 a.m. to 10 p.m.

For more information about holiday service, call 231-2345 or 271-2345 in Illinois.

## Bus

(Continued from Page 2A)

"We didn't see any violators," Fairview Heights Police Capt. Dale Fredeking said in the department's campaign.

Fairview Heights School District 110 Superintendent Dr. Ken Perkins said he just wants to see motorists obey the law when they see a stopped school bus.

"Kids' lives are at stake. We don't want to see any kids get-

ting hurt," Perkins said.

Collinsville Police Chief Gerit Gillespie said his department issued four citations and several warnings during the three-day campaign.

"We've had more than our share of near-misses," Gillespie said. "Many people may not realize the severity of the problem."

In Edwardsville, one citation was issued over the three-day

"Anytime someone passes a school bus, they take the chance of hitting a child."  
— Charles Hall

event, Edwardsville Police Lt. Charles Hall said.

"One is too many. Anytime someone passes a school bus, they take the chance of hitting a child," Hall said.

Hall said the department participated in a similar program at the beginning of the school year but did not catch any motorists passing a school bus.

Under Illinois law, a driver passing a stopped school bus can have their driving privileges suspended for three months. A subsequent conviction of the violation will result in the mandatory suspension of the violator's driving privileges for one year, with another conviction resulting in a five-year suspension. In addition to the mandatory suspensions, violators receive a mandatory fine of \$150 on the first conviction and a \$500 fine for any subsequent conviction.

## Charge

(Continued from Page 1A)

However, at 2:24 a.m. police received a 911 call about a "dead" person at the bar.

When an officer arrived, Mosby was lying outside the bar unconscious with a cut on his lip, surrounded by an "unruly" crowd.

When he regained consciousness, Mosby told the officer he was attacked by an unknown person. Mosby was taken to the police station and charged.

— Scott Cousins

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Charles Stone  
Granite City

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Photo by  
Susan Judd

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# OPINION

## AN EDITORIAL

### Some reflections on the new year

The passing of a calendar year always elicits reflection. Like individuals, newspapers look back to many of the memorable events and people who made their mark on the preceding 12 months. Although not always the case, this review can serve as a source of insight to those who make thoughtful use of the process.

Southern Illinois generally, and the Metro East region particularly, witnessed a myriad of news happenings which offered everything from examples of civic protocol to lessons in humanism. While several of the notable stories emanating from our area revealed the flawed nature of our species, a great number suggest that the local population cares deeply about their families, fellows and communities. The latter may not be surprising. But hearing about it from the press may be.

Undoubtedly, a foreign observer following the ridiculous antics of Monroe County's clerk, Richard Trost, would understand the reluctance of taxpayers to place one additional dime in the general coffers with such scandalous custodians in office.

In addition to political aspects of life here, economic and social concerns continue to dominate conversations in the barber shops and grocery store checkout lanes of our towns and villages.

For counties in Illinois immediately surrounding the City of St. Louis, the ebb and flow of progress in that Gotham must be recognized, evaluated and responded to. Further, as a neighboring state, Illinois needs to act in tandem with Missouri when necessary to grow the region's economy or the like.

Still, it is crucial that the citizenry of Illinois maintains an independent mind which allows for conclusions to be reached that are truly its own. And the sovereign choices of these communities must be respected and adhered to regardless of pressures brought to bear by outsiders and those whose motives do

not serve the commonweal. Madison County voters declined the offer to hitch their wagon to the MetroLink train? The issue was placed before the people of that county and they decided against it. Respecting that decision is exactly what we expect taught in the schools of this land.

If there was one constant in 1997, it was the economy. The reasons for prosperity nationally, and here at home, may be argued ad nauseam. Nonetheless, average incomes are up and commercial development continues to grow. St. Clair County is a thriving example of what the future could hold for the Metro East. It also may serve as a reminder of the care needed to manage growth in the region.

Urban sprawl has become a catch phrase, and a nasty one, for inhabitants in neighboring Missouri communities. Fortunately, Illinois does not have to make the same mistakes.

Development and change are inevitable. Abandonment and decay, however, are not.

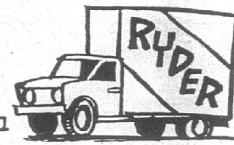
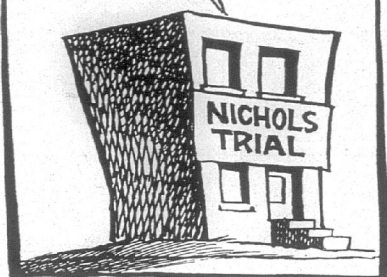
Day after day, new housing starts infuse millions of dollars into the area's economy. Meanwhile, protracted debates about what will become of formerly bustling neighborhoods take place. Few creative remedies have emerged.

What will become of the new subdivisions when we tire of them? Will they become tomorrow's blight? School strikes, tax hikes and the welfare of tykes rounded out much of the year's news. The arguments of contending opinions on most of these issues were fairly well made. A few fell short and were exposed by the light of a free press.

Nothing really changes but the number we write on our checks, unless people want it to. But consider, next December the accomplishments and failures of a year gone by will once again compete for remembrance. And, bad or good, your hometown news will be recorded for posterity in the Journal Newspapers of Southern Illinois.

THE GOOD NEWS, TERRY, IS YOU WON'T BE EXECUTED...

THE BAD NEWS IS... YOUR RIDE'S HERE.



## THE FARM GUY

### Policy makers pour over agriculture census

Coming soon to a mail box near you: the agriculture census.

The last census was taken in 1992 and it was the most comprehensive source of statistics about the nation's agricultural production. This census provided a detailed look at agriculture in each of the nation's 3,000-plus counties.

The 1992 census reported 1,925,300 farms. What is a farm?

A farm, by census definition, is any place from which \$1,000 or more of agricultural products were produced and sold or normally would have been sold during the census year.

Let's take a look at some of the findings on the 1992 census. The number of farms totaled 3.2 million in 1992, but dropped to 1.9 million in 1992, a loss of nearly 50 percent.

According to the 1992 census, there were more farms in the 50-to-179 acre range. I expect this number to be much higher in the new report.



David Schumacher

The 1997 census showed that 33 percent of farmers were under 45 years of age. In 1992, that figure dropped to 31 percent.

What percent do you think were 65 and over? 10 percent? 20? 25 percent?

If you said 25 percent you are right, with 47 percent of all farmers who responded being 55 years old or older. What will the 1997 report show?

Farm ownership also featured some interesting numbers in the '92 census. What percent of the farm ownership is still in the hands of individual or families? 50 percent? 60? 80? 86 percent? If

you said 86 percent, once again you were right, with the remainder of the pie divided up into non-family corporations, institutions, family-held corporations and partnerships. Some expect this to change in the next report with the boom in mega farms.

According to the 1992 census, in 1987 151,611 farms were operated by women. By 1992, that number had grown to 145,156. The county that sold the most agricultural products in 1992 was Fresno, Calif., with 2.1 billion dollars in sales. The second and third counties were also in California.

Farmers, for the most part, are a little protective of information that is asked on the census forms and are concerned about the confidentiality of the information. The individual is guaranteed by law that their individual information will be kept confidential. The information is used for statistical purposes and publishes' data only in tabulated totals.

Who uses all this information after it is gathered and who cares?

Probably the major users are the policymakers in the federal government who use the data in drafting legislation to help resolve agricultural problems.

The question for those involved in agriculture between now and when the new census comes out on Feb. 2 is how to fill out the form, and how accurate to make the information.

Over the years, I have seen so many of these types of reports that come out and the accuracy is questioned. The way I look at it, the reports are only as accurate as the information provided, so if you received a census questionnaire set your course for the guide when filling it out.

David Schumacher is the farm director for 550 KTRS AM radio in St. Louis. His e-mail address is farmguy@ju.no.com.

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### From careless to carless

TO THE EDITOR: Today, tomorrow and a host of past days waxing grim, the chronic drunk driver continues driving impaired with defacto impunity.

For sure, these time bombs seldom modify their behavior. Take their driver's license, plates, money (vix-a-visfunds) so what! They drive because they have the tool to do so — a car. Ergo! Upon a second time DUI conviction take them through the legal process of criminal ASSET forfeiture. Again, they get to keep their

car if they do not drive impaired. And, the innocent drivers (majority) get to keep their lives or loved ones. "Who will bell this cat?" We need legislative support from both sides of the isle and both houses. The motto should be: "From careless to carless."

J.W. "SKIP" BENNETT,  
Director of Southwestern  
Ill. Law Enforcement  
Commission

PATTY KUBITSCHKE,  
St. Clair Regional  
Office of Education

DARRYL ELBE, CenCom  
director of ESDA

### Thanks for home memories

TO THE EDITOR: It was heartwarming and nostalgic this Christmas to view the many decorated homes in Granite City, with the charming glow of the Christmas lights and decorations.

Not to be forgotten was the magnificent Christmas display in downtown Granite City, full of the spirit of the season and a welcome sight for young and old alike.

And a bit of yesterday was present in the beautiful restored homes on Delmar and

Cleveland and other streets in that area. Homes restored to their original dignity and beauty of years past by dedicated owners of these fine homes of yesterday — that was some-

thing to view and remember. Much appreciation goes to these home owners who spent the time and money to bring these lovely homes back to their elegance inside and out.

Thanks for the memories, holding on to yesterday for the people to enjoy today.

STEVE CONKOVICH  
Granite City

### Abolish IRS and start over

TO THE EDITOR: Income tax. Property tax. Payroll taxes. School taxes.

The list goes on and on, there is no shortage of taxes on the plate of most Americans. But taxes aren't even the worst of it. Figuring out the complex IRS Tax Code is serious punishment, and the time and money taxpayers are saying "enough is enough."

I am among thousands of small-business owners who are joining under the National Federation of Independent Business banner in an effort to

abolish the IRS tax code by Dec. 31, 2000, and replace it with a simpler and fairer code that rewards work and savings.

No one — not even accountants — likes the IRS Tax Code. The only realistic solution is to abolish it and start over. Here's why:

• The current tax code is 7 million words. Instructions for Form 1040 are 76 pages long. Our forefathers framed the entire Declaration of Independence in only 1,337 words.

• No one — not the priciest tax attorney, not the most senior IRS official — really knows what all the tax codes mean, leaving a lot of room (See LETTERS, Page 6A)

What do you think of Lambert's proposed expansion and the related issues outlined above? Use the space below for your answer. In addition to listing hometown and ZIP code, identify as much as possible in your comments what your interest in the airport is, for example, if you live nearby and would lose your home or business, if you're a frequent flyer, etc.

### Comments:

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
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Mail coupon by Jan. 3 to:

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St. Louis, MO 63134

## READER SURVEY

We want your opinion on the proposed expansion of Lambert-St. Louis International Airport.

A Federal Aviation Administration report last week gave those expansion plans a big boost by calling plan W-1W into Bridgeton its "preferred alternative." Lambert officials have been pushing that plan for more than two years. They say the airport needs to expand to handle increasing numbers of flights and to keep the region competitive and economically healthy.

Plan W-1W would cost \$2.2 billion, lowest of the alternatives the FAA studied. It would claim 1,900 homes in Bridgeton, numerous businesses as well as a few churches and schools.

The FAA report acknowledged that life in the flight paths to and from Lambert would be a bit louder with W-1W, though it said noise increase would be "minimal." It also estimated that W-1W would increase jobs near Lambert by several thousand and economic activity by several billion dollars.

Meanwhile, officials at the newly opened MidAmerica Airport in St. Clair County support W-1W and said they intend for the airport to remain a "reliever" for Lambert.

Is the cost both in financial and environmental terms of this expansion worth it? Are such sacrifices necessary to assure progress in the St. Louis area? Should MidAmerica be used beyond its present role to better serve the region so that Lambert doesn't have to be expanded?

No matter what side of the runway they live on, every resident has some stake in Lambert expansion. Use the adjoining coupon to send in your comments.

### Granite City Press-Record

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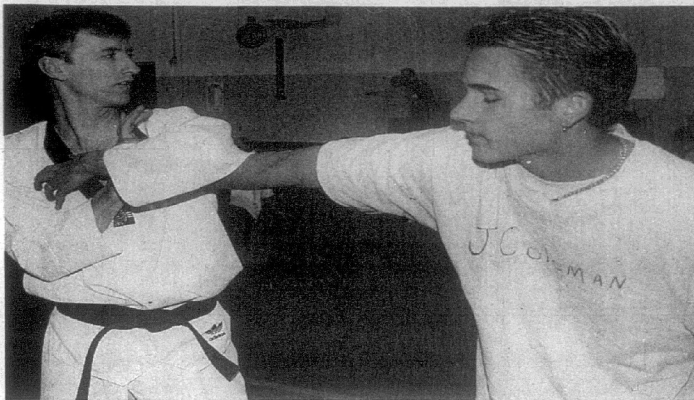
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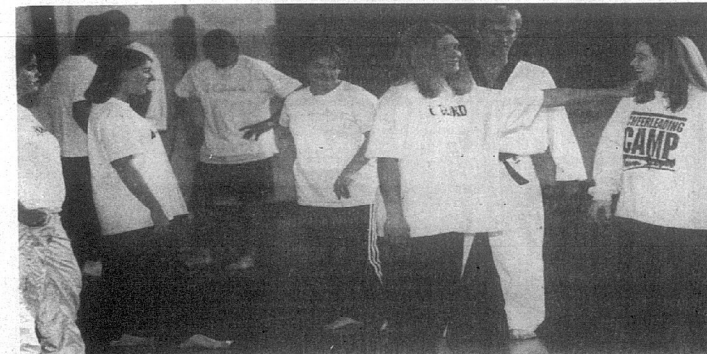
# PEOPLE



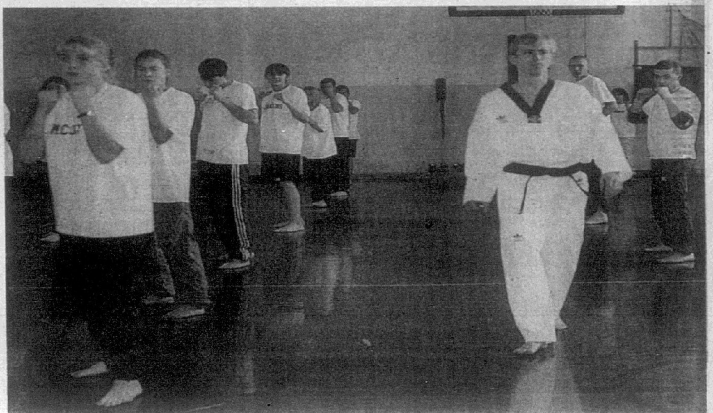
Steve McArthur and GCHS student John Coleman demonstrate the way to break out of a hold.



Zack Myint practices a kick in his Tae Kwon Do class at GCHS.



Steve McArthur watches as two students practice a hold. When they first began, many of the students could hardly lift their legs, but by the end they demonstrated tremendous flexibility.



Steve McArthur instructs the GCHS self-defense class. A mix of students from all grade levels are taking the Tae Kwon Do class to learn methods of mental and physical discipline.

## Kick

(Continued from Page 1A)  
dents are now able to perform any number of moves.

McArthur said Mitchell teaches the kickboxing class for those students who want to enter competitions. McArthur's Tae Kwon Do class is structured more for those who want the discipline.

"Kids at this age really need the mental and physical conditioning," Papa said.

The two men met almost 16 years ago while doing Tae Kwon Do. In April, they opened Mitchell and McArthur's Tae Kwon Do Inc. at 1308 19th St. in Granite City. The business is open only three nights a week, as Mitchell is a Granite City firefighter and McArthur is an electrical engineer at Granite City Steel.

**"Kids at this age really need the mental and physical conditioning."**

Terry Papa  
GCHS

McArthur competed on the state and national levels in Tae Kwon Do in the 1980s. Both men tried out for the 1988 Olympic team as well.

"If I could make a living doing it, I'd do it," McArthur said.

They cover as much as possible in the nine-week classes, and they repeatedly stress they are not teaching the students how to fight.

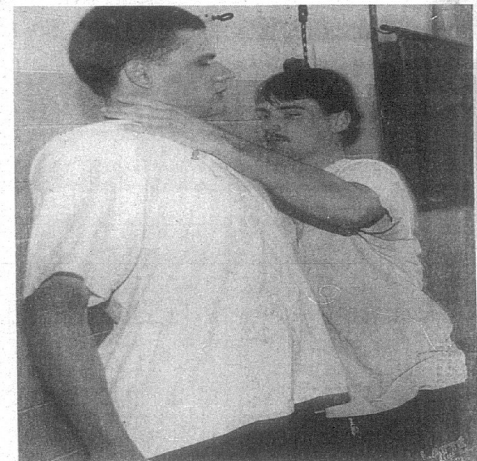
"They emphasize (the students) have to know exactly what they're doing," Papa said. "It's not something you can have a little bit of knowledge about and expect to do any good."

"We're looking for lifetime skills to give them," she said.

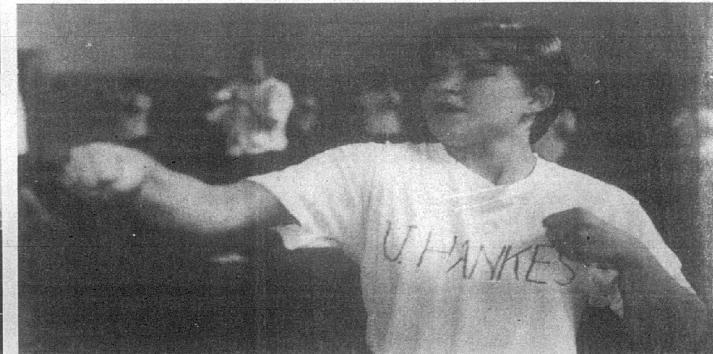
**Staff photos  
by John Freese**



GCHS student Jamie Fleck practices a forearm strike while her instructor Steve McArthur uses his hand to give her a target.



Eric Levy, left, plays the role of an attacker while his partner David Williams demonstrates a strike designed to incapacitate him.



Valerie Hanks practices striking with a fist during drills at the start of the Tae Kwon Do class at GCHS.

# NEWS

## BAC offers GED courses

Belleville Area College is offering free General Educational Development classes at various sites throughout the college's district in January. Morning classes meet from 9 a.m. to 12:50 p.m., weekdays, from Jan. 12 to Feb. 6, at the Belleville Campus, 2500 Carlyle Ave., and the Cahokia Goodwill Career Center, 1040 Camp Jackson Road. Students can register for classes starting at 9 a.m. Monday, Jan. 12, in the Belleville Campus Gym Lobby and the Career Center Lobby. Another daytime class will meet from 11 a.m. to 2:50 p.m., weekdays, from Jan. 12 to Feb. 6, at Centerville City Hall, 5800 Bond Ave. Students can register starting at 11

a.m. Monday, Jan. 12, in the Centerville City Hall Lobby. A daytime class will be offered from 9 a.m. to 12:50 p.m., weekdays, from Jan. 20 to Feb. 13 at BAC's Granite City Campus, 4950 Maryville Road. Registration for the class will take place at 9 a.m., Tuesday, Jan. 20, in the GCC Cafeteria. A daytime class will be offered from 9:11:50 a.m., Mondays and Wednesdays, from Jan. 26 to March 25, at BAC's Red Bud Campus, 500 W. South Fourth St. Registration for the class will take place at 9 a.m., Monday, Jan. 26, in Room 102. Evening classes will be offered from 6:30-9:20 p.m.,

Tuesdays and Thursdays, from Jan. 15 to March 12 at the Belleville Campus, Granite City Campus and Cahokia High School, 800 Range Lane. Registration for the classes will take place at 6:30 p.m., Thursday, Jan. 15, in the Belleville Campus Varsity Gym Lobby, the GCC Cafeteria and the Cahokia High School Library. GED classes prepare residents who have not received a high school diploma to take a test to receive a high school equivalency certificate. For more information, call BAC at 235-2700, extension 525, or toll-free in Illinois, at 1-800-BAC-5131, extension 525.



BAC photo by LINDA GASS BURGESS.

Students in Nancy Vetter's Human Sexuality class at Belleville Area College's Granite City Campus talk with her before a recent class.

## GCC PTK inducts new members

Twenty-three students of Belleville Area College's Granite City Campus are the newest members of Alpha Kappa Rho, the GCC chapter of Phi Theta Kappa, the International Honor Society of the Two-Year College. The new members were inducted in a ceremony held recently in Granite City. In his remarks to the new PTK members, and their families and friends, GCC Provost Dr. Harold Johnson said that with induction comes responsibility. "Take what you have learned and give back to the community," Johnson said. "If you don't, the knowledge you have learned is worthless. It

may as well be piled in a corner somewhere." The guest speaker for the ceremony was Steve Aumer, a political science and history instructor at the Granite City Campus. Gauder spoke on the 1997-98 International PTK honors topic: The Family: Myth and Metaphor and Reality, specifically how the 1960s media perpetuated the image of that era being the golden age of the family. Gauder cited a 1952 department store ad that captured the period's feeling on the subject of women going to college. The ad stated college was "where girls who are a cut above cooking and sewing go to meet a man so they can

spend the rest of their lives cooking and sewing." The following area residents were inducted into Alpha Kappa Rho: Collinsville: Jamie Bailey, Julie Boggs, Karen Parker and JoNina Rogers. Granite City: Jan Bain, Beverly Bass, Christine Earlin, Desiree Hutton, Nancy Mathenia, Karen Poole, Linda Ragan, Robert Roberts Jr., Jacqueline Smith, Anthony Turnbough and Cynthia Ward. Madison: Patrice Ingram and Dorothy Sharp. Maryville: Rhonda Hunsinger. Mitchell: Quincy Shields. Troy: Aryka Brown and Terri Simon.

## Classroom second home to instructor

Nancy Vetter didn't set foot in a college classroom until she was 38 years old. Now, not too many years later, you'd have a hard time not finding her in one. Vetter of Glen Carbon is an adjunct professor at Belleville Area College's Granite City Campus, where she is teaching four evening classes this semester: Abnormal Psychology, Death and Dying, Human Sexuality and Applied Psychology. Vetter also teaches at the college's Belleville Campus during the summer. "I absolutely love teaching. I learn just as much from my students as they learn from me," Vetter said. "I'm up front with my students the first day of class. I tell them I don't have all the answers. I'm not the be-all-end-all standing up there." Her full-time job is serving as Director of Social Services at Anderson Hospital in Maryville, a position she has held for the past three-and-a-half years. In this capacity, Vetter assists not only hospital patients but also general public in dealing with nursing

*"I learn just as much from my students as they learn from me."*

Nancy Vetter  
BAC instructor

homes and other social agencies. For anyone who knows Vetter or her family, it should be no surprise that she has chosen two service professions like social work and teaching. She has family members who are doctors, nurses and teachers. Born and raised in Edwardsville, Vetter graduated from BAC in 1989 with an Associate of Arts degree in psychology. That same year, she received a bachelor's degree in education and psychology from SIU-Carbondale where she graduated magna cum laude. Vetter later earned a masters degree in social work from Washington University in St. Louis.

A working mother while attending college, Vetter realizes her students have many other things besides schoolwork on their minds. "Students are so stressed anyway these days. I only give a mid-term and a final," she said. "I also give them two projects the first day of class and tell them they have the rest of the semester to work on them. That way, they can work at their own pace." Through her classes encompass a wide variety of subject matters, Vetter has no one favorite class she prefers teaching. "I like them all. Different classes are like different types of ice cream: Chocolate, vanilla, strawberry. They are all good," she said. In all of her classes, Vetter tries to impart practical knowledge that her students can apply on a daily basis. "They like to hear my examples of real-life experiences. It makes what they're learning more meaningful." Vetter has two sons: Shawn, 27, and Tim, 25, who both live in Kansas.

## Program helps workers' skills

Loretta Conley has been standing on her own two feet for the past 20 years. And she's tired of it. Don't get her wrong, Conley of Granite City, who has spent the past two decades working on the tray line in the cafeteria of St. Elizabeth Medical Center in Granite City, has no desire to become dependent on anyone. She would like, however, to do another job within the hospital, where she's not always on her feet. Conley is one of 22 employees participating in the hospital's Future Horizons program, which provides computer-based training designed to improve employees' skills in job-related communications and mathematics. The hospital is providing matching funds for Future Horizons, which also is funded through a \$9,000 Secretary of State Workplace Skills grant.

Belleville Area College's Center for Training Innovations (CTI) helped the hospital secure the two-year grant. In the grant's first year, the CTI assisted the hospital in assessing employees' workplace skill strengths and weaknesses and in establishing a personal improvement plan for each employee. "We decided, with health care changing rapidly, to provide the opportunity for staff members to improve their skills so they can be more marketable within this organization," said Donna Fisher, St. Elizabeth's director of organization training and development. "We knew that for some employees, the training would be a brush-up. But, for others, it is really the first significant computer training they've had." The training classes came at the perfect time for hospital employee Wand Jaco of Granite City.

Jaco, who had worked 18 years alongside Conley in the cafeteria tray line when the training classes began, recently started a new job in the hospital's medical records office. "I like to work on the computers. I'm really learning a lot," Jaco said. Classes meet twice a week for 15 weeks. Written communications is taught on Mondays, and math and computer training is taught on Wednesdays. The instructor is Sheila Stocker, a CTI trainer. For more information on workplace skills training or Secretary of State grant applications, call Jeanne Davis, CTI's workforce development director, at 235-2700, extension 466.

## Church offers Letters new year service

The New Shining Light M.B. Church in Venice will have their 2nd annual New Years Watch Service on Wednesday, Dec. 31, at 10 p.m. The guest speaker will be their own Evangelist Shelonda Williams. Everyone is invited to come and praise God into the new year.

(Continued from Page 4A) for interpretation by IRS agents. Individual taxpayers spend 1.7 billion hours annually simply trying to comply with the tax code. Business owners will spend an additional 3.4 billion hours. It would take the equivalent of a staff of 3 million

people working full-time, year round just on taxes to finish that job. Lowering taxes is a worthwhile goal, but even positive steps like that involve modifying the tax code-making it even longer and more confusing. NFIB's goal is to collect more than one million signatures on petitions by June 17, 1998, for the opening of the Congressional Small Business Summit in Washington, D.C. At that time, the petitions will be presented to Congress as "one million reasons to stop talking about the tax code and actually do something about it." Then, we'll be calling on congress to pass legislation to abolish the IRS code while simultaneously developing a replacement tax code that works for all Americans. I urge all business owners to join with the NFIB and urge Congress to wipe the IRS slate clean. To learn more about the campaign, or to become one of the million signers, call 1-888-NOTAFS or visit the NFIB Web site at [www.notafs.org](http://www.notafs.org).

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a newly formed non-profit and is opening it's first resale store called  
**The Unique Boutique**  
Profits generated from sales in the store will be recycled back into the community through "work donation." The concept of work donations removes some of the stigma of charity by promoting dignity and providing valid work experience for the individual.  
Donations can be brought to 1974-B Vandalla Rd. Orchard Center (the old Barewood Furniture Store) Collinsville.  
A Hand Up, Inc. is a 501-C non-profit.  
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**\$3,000,000 GAMBLERS SALE!!**  
**TAKE YOUR DISCOUNTS PLUS NO DOWN PAYMENT AND NO INTEREST FOR 2 YEARS\***

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SIMPLE MATHEMATICS 100% HOSKINS PARTICLE BOARD

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**SOLID CHERRY OR SOLID OAK BY SUMPTER CABINET CO. NO FINER QUALITY!! 100% USA**

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\* Minimum purchase of \$700.00 required. See store for details. With approved credit. All prior sales excluded.





NEWS

# OBITUARIES

**Anna Kosick**  
ANNA (MANZIEK) KOSICK, 54, of Madison died at 11:05 a.m. Monday, Dec. 29, 1997, at her daughter's residence in Belleville.

She was born June 27, 1913 in Madison to Nicolas and Sophie Manziek.

Mrs. Kosick was a homemaker, a member of the Nativity of the Virgin Mary Orthodox Church, and the Society of Myrrh Bearing Women.

Survivors include her husband, Steve Kosick, whom she married Nov. 12, 1974; a daughter, Vasia Phillips of Belleville; a son, Michael Taras of Hohenwald, Tenn.; four grandchildren and four great-grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by her parents; her first husband, Peter Teras; two brothers, Harry Manziek and John Manziek; and two sisters, Mary Komar and Evelyn Chaklos.

Visitation is from 3 to 8 p.m. for family and from 4 to 8 p.m. for friends on Sunday, Jan. 4, at Thomas Mortuary.

Services will be Monday, Jan. 5 at Nativity of the Virgin Mary Orthodox Church, 416 Ewing Ave. in Madison.

Survivors include his mother, Ethel David Williams; three daughters, Danielle, Kyle and Rhea; all of Bartow, Calif.; Larry and Ronald of Tulsa, Okla.; and James Willis of Alto; and four sisters, Sharon Ingram and Betty Woodard, both of St. Louis, Florence Williams and Bonnie Belford of Godfrey.

Services were Monday, Dec. 2, at the New Salem Missionary Baptist Church in Venice with the Rev. Larry Brown officiating. Interment followed at Sunset Gardens Cemetery in Millstadt.

Funeral Home Metro East Chapel handled the arrangements.

## Second man arrested after fatal stabbing

**By Terry Hillig**  
Telegraph staff writer

Police have arrested a second man in the aftermath of a fatal stabbing at a downtown bar.

Anthony Piper, 21, of rural Jerseyville, was arrested at 1:24 p.m. Sunday on a charge of harassment of a witness, police said.

Police Chief Thomas Woelfel described Piper as an associate of Ricky E. Callahan of Jerseyville, being held on a first-degree murder charge in the early Saturday morning death of Ronald E. Haenitich, 28, of rural Jerseyville.

"To the best of our knowledge, (Piper) had nothing to do with the stabbings," Woelfel said. "The charge has to do with threats he made to an individual outside the bar after the stabbings."

Haenitich and four other people were slain in an incident at about 12:20 a.m. at Lorton's Bar-Grill, 114 W. Arch St. Haenitich was pronounced dead at 1:30 a.m. at Jersey Community Hospital.

Callahan, 22, an ex-convict, reportedly began slashing at patrons with a knife as he fled the bar after a dispute over a woman's refusal to dance with him.

Two people hospitalized after the incident were improving Sunday, Woelfel said. A 52-year-old man was moved out of intensive care at St. Louis University Hospital and a 24-year-old man was being treated to improve after surgery at Jersey Community Hospital, the chief said. Two other victims, a man and a woman, were treated but did not require hos-

pitalization.

Woelfel said the investigation is continuing and numerous witnesses have been interviewed. He declined to disclose what Callahan told police in an interview shortly after his arrest.

Police have yet to determine a clear motive, Woelfel said. The first victim was a brother of a woman who apparently declined to dance with Callahan. When the brother sought to intervene, Callahan allegedly pulled out a knife and cut him on the neck.

Police said other patrons who saw the incident approached Callahan but he ran toward a door, stabbing and slashing at other people. The victims apparently were not acquainted with Callahan.

Callahan was being held until police arrived. Woelfel said the men's actions demonstrated courage and character.

"They jumped this guy who was being slashed and harassing people outside the bar," Woelfel said. "They grabbed him, aware of the peril, and disarmed him. It speaks well of the people of our community."

Woelfel said Callahan was paroled in August after serving time in Missouri State Prison. An autopsy disclosed that Haenitich died of a knife wound to the chest. Police said they will also seek charges against Callahan in the other stabbings.

Callahan was being held with out bail in the Jersey County Jail.

## Welding courses set

Belleville Area College is offering an advanced welding course, Qualification and Certification Procedures for Welding Inspectors.

The course will be offered from 9 a.m. to 1:10 p.m. Saturdays from Jan. 17 through April 25 at the Granite City Campus, 4550 Marville Road.

The course is designed to help students prepare for the upcoming Qualification and Certification of Welding Inspectors examination. Certification from the American Welding Society is considered among professionals to be the welding inspector's most valuable symbol of professional achievement and standing.

The course will review welder qualifications and certification; welding procedures and their qualifications; the welding inspector and inspector responsibilities; welding ability; basic metallurgy and chemistry; weld joint preparation and discontinuities; inspection processes; welding inspection reports; AWS 1.1 code; and practical test requirements. There is a \$10 non-refundable application fee for new students. The approximate cost of the books is \$250. For more information, call 235-2700, extension 378 or 252, or toll-free at (800) EAC-5131, extension 378 or 252.

## Funeral Summary

**Natasha Urkewich**  
NATASHA MARIE URKEWICH, 6, of Granite City died at 8:03 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 20, 1997, at Anderson Hospital in Maryville.

Funeral services with Natasha and her grandfather, Joseph Urkewich, will be today, Wednesday, Dec. 31, at Irwin Chapel in Granite City with the Rev. Anthony Cook officiating. Interment will be at Sunset Hill Memorial Estates in Glen Carbon.

**Joseph Urkewich**  
JOSEPH P. URKEWICH, 55, of Edwardsville died Saturday, Dec. 27, 1997 at 10:31 a.m.

Services for both Natasha and Joseph Urkewich will be at 1 p.m. today, Wednesday, Dec. 31 at Irwin Chapel, 3960 Marville Road, with the Rev. Anthony Cook officiating. There will be a double interment at Sunset Hill Memorial Estates in Glen Carbon following the service.

All arrangements were handled by Irwin Chapel.

**Bessie Loney**  
BESSIE LORRAINE (MATTHEWS) LONEY, 82, of Granite City died Saturday, Dec. 27, 1997 at Calvin Johnson Nursing Home.

Services were Monday, Dec. 29 at LakeView Memorial Gardens with Rev. Ron McGraw officiating.

Memorial services will be at the Parkinson Foundation, LakeView Funeral Home handled the arrangements.

**Lottie Riess**  
LOTTIE M. (GIBBS) RIESS, 87, of Greenville died Sunday, Dec. 28, 1997 at St. Elizabeth's Hospital in Granite City.

Services will be at 10 a.m. today, Wednesday, Dec. 31, at Schindler Funeral Home with the Rev. Darrell Bolton officiating. Interment will follow at Calvary Cemetery in Edwardsville.

Memorials can be made to donor's choice.

**Melvin Lane**  
MELVIN E. "BUD" LANE SR., 50, of Granite City died Sunday, Dec. 28, 1997 at 4:40 p.m. at the Collinsville Center.

Services will be today, Wednesday, Dec. 31 at 1 p.m. at the Herndon Funeral Home in Collinsville with the Rev. Joe Sheets officiating. Interment will follow at St. John Cemetery in Collinsville.

Memorials can be made to the Shriner.

**Helen Dobrinic**  
HELEN DOBRINIC, 90, of Granite City died Sunday, Dec. 28, 1997 at 1:30 p.m. at her residence.

Services were Monday, Dec. 29 at Irwin Chapel with the Rev. Carl Watkins officiating. Interment was in Fairview Heights.

## MARRIAGE LICENSES

The following marriage licenses were issued through the office of Madison County Clerk Mark Von Nida:

Keith Alan Behrmann and Virginia Ann Behrmann, both of Highland.

Daniel Howard Callison Sr. and Holly Marie Zimmer, both of Collinsville.

Joseph Robert Couch and Holly Jo Eaton, both of Moro.

Robert Kenneth Doudera and Lori Anne Crouter, both of Granite City.

Brian Keith Routh of South Roxana and Rebecca Elizabeth Redd of Edwardsville.

Glover Ray Frederick of Granite City and Sue Ann Graham of Florissant, Mo.

Donald Wayne Gosselt Jr. and Jacklyn Renee Campbell, both of Collinsville.

Danny Wayne Grawitt and Kathy Alene McKay, both of Granite City.

Roscoe Hammond and Peggy Faye Folkerts, both of Collinsville.

Darren Lee Johnson and Amy Marie Baker, both of Collinsville.

Marquel Kenneth Jones and Theresa Renee Martin, both of Edwardsville.

Robert Steven Krug Jr. and Victoria Lynn Potts, both of Granite City.

Frank Eugene Long of Oklahoma City, Okla., and Helen Marie Enling of Collinsville.

Paul James Mager and Deedra Lynn Amsden, both of Collinsville.

Noe Guadalupe Marrujo and Janean Kay Richmond, both of Collinsville.

Donald J. Oehl and Angela Lynn Dalhaus, both of Edwardsville.

Aaron Lee Oze of Collinsville and Tracey Gwynne Roseberry of O'Fallon.

Terrace Ray Phelps and Brenda Leigh, both of Collinsville.

Timothy Wayne Proffitt and Jaime Lynn Martin, both of Granite City.

Roger David Routh and Jeanne Lynn Mullikin, both of Edwardsville.

Alan Herald Swank and Erin Renee Sullivan, both of Edwardsville.

Richard David Wall and Peggy Marie Wall, both of Granite City.

Bryan Keith Waugh and Stacie K. Cozack, both of Granite City.

Jason Lee Wilson and Amie Lee Owens, both of Granite City.

Joseph Michael Baxter of Florissant, Mo., and Lori Gayle Livingston of Collinsville.

City died at 7:30 p.m. Friday, Dec. 26, 1997 at Care Nursing Home in Granite City.

Services were Tuesday, Dec. 30, 1997 at the Nativity of the Virgin Mary Eastern Orthodox Church in Madison with the Rev. Father Thomas Succarotte officiating. Interment followed at the Nativity of the Virgin Mary Orthodox Cemetery in Edwardsville.

Memorials can be made to the Church Memorial Fund, 28 Thomas City Park Tabernacle in Granite City.

**Louise Adams**  
LOUISE (CRAIG) ADAMS, 75, of Granite City died Sunday, Dec. 28, 1997 at Belleville Memorial Hospital.

Services will be today, Wednesday, Dec. 31 at the Faith Baptist Church in Belleville with the Rev. Roger Baker officiating. Interment will follow at Mt. Hope Cemetery in Belleville.

Memorials can be made to the Fairview Heights Cemetery.

**Frances Yovandich**  
FRANCES (KOVICH) YOVANDICH, 70, of Fairmont City died Saturday, Dec. 27, 1997, at Barnes Hospital in Madison.

Services were Tuesday, Dec. 30, at Holy Rosary Church in Fairmont City with the Rev. David Wilke officiating. Burial was in the Calvary Cemetery in Edwardsville.

Memorials can be made to Holy Rosary Catholic Church.

**Anna Rougly**  
ANNA LEE (HARRIS) ROUGLY, 63, of Caseyville died Sunday, Dec. 28, 1997 at Belleville Memorial Hospital.

Services were Tuesday, Dec. 30, at LakeView Funeral Home with the Rev. Hal Santos officiating. Burial was in the Fairview Heights Memorial Gardens in Fairview Heights.

Memorials may be made to the Rougly family.

**Hollis Brimer**  
HOLLIS G. BRIMER, 88, of East Alton died Sunday, Dec. 27, 1997 at Alton Memorial Hospital.

Services will be today, Wednesday, Dec. 31 at Sunset Chapel with the Rev. Leon Belt officiating. Interment will be in St. John Cemetery in Granite City.

Irwin Chapel handled the arrangements.

**Ola Warren**  
OLA L. (ALLEN) WARREN, 95, of Caseyville died Friday, Dec. 26, 1997 at 1:30 p.m. at her residence.

Services were Monday, Dec. 29 at Irwin Chapel with the Rev. Carl Watkins officiating. Interment was in Fairview Heights.

the Sunset Hill Memorial Estates in Glen Carbon.

Memorials can be made to the First Baptist Church.

**Stanley Hecht**  
STANLEY HECHT, 68, of Granite City died Wednesday, Dec. 24, 1997 at St. Elizabeth's Hospital in Granite City.

Services were Tuesday, Dec. 23 at Irwin Chapel, 3960 Marville Road in Granite City, handled the arrangements.

Memorials can be made to Trinity Park Tabernacle in Granite City.

**Walter Schoffra**  
WALTER H. SCHOFFRA, 83, of Edwardsville died Friday, Dec. 12, 1997 at 8:25 p.m. at St. Elizabeth's Hospital in Granite City.

Services were Wednesday, Dec. 17, at Thomas Chapel in Granite City with the Rev. Delmer Shirley officiating. Interment followed at Buck Road Cemetery.

Arrangements were made by the Fitzgerald Funeral Service in Tulsa, Okla.

**Edward Bickel**  
EDWARD GUSTAVE BICKEL, 79, of Collinsville died Wednesday, Dec. 24, 1997 at his residence.

Services were Monday, Dec. 29 at Allan and Clutter Funeral Home in Collinsville with the Rev. Joe Sheets officiating. Interment followed at the LakeView Memorial Gardens in Fairview Heights.

Memorials can be made to Shriners Hospital, Collinsville Memorial Public Library, or to donors choice.

**Glenn Eddleman**  
GLENN (GABBY) EDDLEMAN, 60, of Granite City died at 3:15 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 23, 1997 at his residence.

Services were Dec. 27 at Irwin Chapel with the Rev. Henry Crippen officiating. Interment followed at the Sunset Hill Memorial Estates.

Memorials can be made to the Hospice of Madison County.

**Vasil Vassileff**  
VASIL VASSILEFF, 85, of Jacksonville, Fla. died at 7:20 p.m. Monday, Dec. 22, 1997, at Southlake Nursing Home in Jacksonville.

Services were Monday, Dec. 29 at the Holy Trinity Bulgarian Eastern Orthodox Church in Edwardsville.

David Vassileff handled the arrangements.

Memorials can be made to the Alzheimers Assn., 9374 Olive Blvd. St. Louis, Mo. 63132.

**Ella Mae Moore**  
ELLA MAE (KIMMOORE) MOORE, 55, of St. Louis died Wednesday, Dec. 17, 1997 in St. Louis.

Services were Tuesday, Dec. 23 at Irwin Chapel with the Rev. Carl Watkins officiating. Interment was in Fairview Heights.

at the Officer Funeral Home Metro East Chapel in East St. Louis with the Rev. Henry Goodwin officiating. Interment followed in the Sunset Gardens of Memory Cemetery in Millstadt.

**Douglas Griggs**  
DOUGLAS GRIGGS, 44, of Venice died Wednesday, Dec. 17, 1997 at Barnes-Jewish Hospital in St. Louis.

Services were Tuesday, Dec. 23 at the Mt. Nebo Baptist Church in Madison with the Rev. Randone Foggs officiating. Interment followed in the Sunset Gardens of Memory Cemetery in Millstadt.

Officer Funeral Home Metro East Chapel handled the arrangements.

**Hetty Diamond**  
HETTY DIAMOND, 95, of Tulsa, Okla. died Tuesday, Dec. 23, 1997, at his residence.

Services were Tuesday, Dec. 26 at the Rindskopf-Roth Funeral Home in St. Louis. Interment followed in Chesed Shel Emet Cemetery.

Arrangements were made by the Fitzgerald Funeral Service in Tulsa, Okla.

**Edward Bickel**  
EDWARD GUSTAVE BICKEL, 79, of Collinsville died Wednesday, Dec. 24, 1997 at his residence.

Services were Monday, Dec. 29 at Allan and Clutter Funeral Home in Collinsville with the Rev. Joe Sheets officiating. Interment followed at the LakeView Memorial Gardens in Fairview Heights.

Memorials can be made to Shriners Hospital, Collinsville Memorial Public Library, or to donors choice.

**"Pearl" Williams**  
"PEARL" (GARNET) WILLIAMS, 89, of Caseyville died Friday, Dec. 26, 1997 at St. Elizabeth's Hospital in Granite City.

Services were Monday, Dec. 29, at Herr Funeral Home with the Rev. Jerry Canfield officiating. Burial followed at LakeView Memorial Gardens in Fairview Heights.

Memorials can be made to the American Cancer Society, American Heart Association, or to the Eagles Lodge #1051.

**Wanda Amos**  
WANDA LEE (ABRAMS) AMOS, 37, of St. Louis died Sunday, Dec. 23, 1997, at Barnes Hospital in St. Louis.

Services were Monday, Dec. 29 at Kassy Mortuary Chapel with Rev. Ronald Jansen officiating. Interment was in the Sunset Gardens of Memory Cemetery in Fairview Heights.

Memorial donation can be made to the family through Kassy Mortuary.

Leigh Robinson, both of Collinsville.

The following marriage licenses were issued through the office of St. Clair County:

William James Beltran and Heather Nicole Delaney, both of O'Fallon.

Billy Braden of Cahokia and Eva L. Hall of Pacific, Mo.

Richard Edgar Breakfield and Cindy Lynn Jackson, both of Belleville.

Daniel Cheney and Arena Overby, both of Belleville.

Jack D. Chism and Lana M. Traiter, both of Duplo.

Randy L. Cook and Christine E. Wasson, both of Belleville.

Walter E. Gask and Belville and Cheryl L. Zachary of Oakdale.

Herbert Feldt III of Cahokia and Christina Rednour of Prairie Du Rocher.

Dante Rinaud Gregory and Brynisha Marretta Moore, both of Cahokia.

Adrian C. Hendricks II of Country Club Hills and Andrea Osborne of East St. Louis.

Juan C. Hernandez and Esther E. Barnhouse, both of Belleville.

Steven James Johnson of Washington Park and Doretha E. Clark of East St. Louis.

John Killebrew and Blenda Geniken, both of Smithton.

John Killebrew and Blenda Geniken, both of Smithton.

Kerry E. McBride, both of Belleville.

Tracy L. Long and Renee G. Oliver, both of Belleville.

## Jails

(Continued from Page 1A)

"It takes manpower to check on prisoners every half hour," he said.

He said about half of the \$25 fee is taken up in feeding prisoners.

He added he is considering asking the Venice City Council to raise the fee.

Beach's problem comes from a lack of space at the police station, which does not have any holding facilities.

Most recently, the board approved spending \$3,500 for architect's fees to develop a

preliminary plan to convert the former Shooters 270 nightclub into a village hall.

Wilson said he has been negotiating the sale of the former Shooters 270 at 77 Chouteau Trace Parkway.

Pontoon Beach Police Chief Michael Crouch said dealing with prisoners has been an ongoing problem for the department.

In the past, he said they have taken prisoners up to the Marine County Jail, but that is too far away and the paperwork was sometimes too complicated.

He said in some cases, prisoners would spend several hours being processed into the

county jail, have to be taken down to court in Granite City, and then taken back to the county jail to be reprocessed.

In some cases he said prisoners were issued orange prisoner jumpsuits, were released and did not return the jumpsuits.

"I've been here 21 years and I've heard of 20 years that we're going to get cells," Crouch said.

He said the department housed about 110 prisoners last year.

"A lot of times you release a prisoner and you don't have a place to put them," he said.

beginning Dec. 31 'til the wee hours of Jan. 1," he said.

Also involved in the "Fun Without Guns" campaign this year is Outdoor Systems Advertising, a local billboard company that has donated 30 billboards for the project. Other companies joining the effort are Schnucks stores, LaCade Cab and various media outlets.

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## NEWS



Staff photo by JOHN FRESA

## Santa's Angels

Santa Claus rumbled into Granite City the weekend before Christmas with an escort of motorcyclists from local clubs bearing gifts and food for the children and women staying at Phoenix Crisis Center. Seen riding on the group's trailer as Santa is Dave Tibbitts, towed by James 'Big 'un' Brown's Harley-Davidson. 20 bikes rode in, and over 60 people helped out.

## HONORS

The following students at Metro East Lutheran High School in Edwardsville earned academic honors during the first quarter of the 1987-88 school year.

**WITH DISTINCTION**  
SOPHOMORES  
Collinsville — Rachel Wren and Erin Zukosky.  
Edwardsville — Emilie Groth, James Starrett and Kim Worles.  
Granite City — Andrew Foley.  
Worden — Tara Knackstedt.  
FRESHMEN

Collinsville — Leah Englehr and Jason Murphy.  
Dorsey — Christopher Schelp.  
Edwardsville — Daniel Erb and Allison Redden.  
Maryville — Megan Boeger and Aaron Gingrich.  
Troy — Matthew Galen.  
**HONOR ROLL**  
SENIORS  
Collinsville — David Kober.  
Edwardsville — Amanda Hayes, Marlam Schrage and Patrick Trilon.

Maryville — Nicholas Wierciak.  
SOPHOMORES  
Collinsville — Bethany Brandt, Steven Goetz, Rachel Lane and Brent Sankey.  
FRESHMEN  
Caseyville — Nanette Small and Kristin Wade.  
Glen Carbon — Joy Casoria and Renee Seehausen.  
Granite City — Diane Foley and Adam Hart.  
Maryville — Michael Ganske and Ryan Kemper.

## ORGANIZATIONS

## Elkettes

The Elkettes held their Christmas party at the lodge on Dec. 2. A donation of money was given by the members to the needy children of the area. Members also contributed non-perishable goods to the Elks for their contribution to many of the charities. Sandy Kozyak, Chaplain, gave the prayer before and after the buffet dinner which was catered by Brenda's.

'Sweet Adelaide' from the Gateway Choral Group from Collinsville entertained the group.

A poinsettia plant decorated each table, which was given to some lucky winners: Joyce Curran, Janet Harris, Gloria Haerer, Mame Nowicki, Nancy Chost, Ginny Warford, Bernadine Brinsa, Candy Thompson, Marcella Buenga, Dee Yates, Shirley Thompson, Dorrie Anderson, Carolyn Billing, Helen Schmisser and Bertha Coltrill. The big winner of the 50/50 drawing was a member, Pamela Ames.

The next meeting of the Elkettes will be Jan. 6.

## Travelers Abroad

Travelers Abroad held its holiday dinner party on Nov. 24 at Jerry's Cafeteria with 33 members and guests in attendance.

After the dinner, President Alice Purdes welcomed the group and various door prizes were won by Stephanie Ruzic, Gordon Hankla, Eunice Hatcher, Josephine Beatty, Ruth Messey, Helen Stumpe, Dorothy Hoedebeck, Gen Hill, Marlett Schocker, Al Pace and Mary St. Cin. 'Dinners for Two' at Jerry's were won by Betty Duff and Frank Beatty.

Dr. Purdes introduced the evening's speaker, Al Pace and his wife, who told about the experiences they had enjoyed on a 12-day trip to China in 1995 through the auspices of the True-Value Hardware Stores with whom he is affiliated. Five persons in the audience had also experienced traveling in China.

The Paces visited cities, hospitals,

private homes, a Buddhist temple, schools, factories and the Great Wall.

Other attending the dinner were Lillian Delp, Nina Dittman, Georgia Engelke, Fred Feldworth, Kathy Smith, Isabella Southwick, Helen Lilly, Mary Swan, Betty Townsend, Barbara Williams, Ann Pieper, Marguerite Lexow, Charles and Jeanette James, Joe Hill, Julienne Hatscher and Maricann Hankla.

## Navy Mothers

The Illinois State Convention was held at the Collinsville Travel Lodge. The meeting was called to order by state Navy Mother Commander Mary Korsog, of Granite City. The presentation of the United States and Illinois flags; and the Navy Mother's Banner was given.

Followed by a regular business meeting, the afternoon meeting was adjourned. In the evening, a memorial service was held in the memory of Navy mother, father, sons and daughters who died in the past two years. Following the Memorial Service the Nominating Committee met.

After breakfast, Korsog called the meeting to order. Reports of officers and committee chairman was given. The national Navy representative extended greetings and then explained how Navy Mothers can be 'life members.'

Comments from past commander, Polly Hamm and national adjutant, Alberta Lawrence were stated. The chairman of nominating committee, Nina George of Granite City read the slate of officers. The slate of officers was accepted with no opposition.

Installation of officers was held: national chaplain, Marie Cain; installing commander, Polly Hamm; installing chaplain, Alberta Lawrence; installing adjutant and installing marshal, Carolyn Moore.

The next state Navy Mothers convention will be in Springfield. Nina George and Neva Pe-ttl, co-chairmen and Korsog will be convention treasurer. The convention will be in September of 1999.

## CWU choir to sing at state assembly

Church Women United held its Christmas party on Dec. 5 at the Holy Family Community Center with a potluck luncheon. Sister Jean Patrick gave the devotion. She also served on the committee with Margaret Branding, Lucille Caban, Wilma Jones, Annabelle Patton, Ruth Rotter, Cicel Seibert, and Connie McGee.

'White Elephant' went to the highest bidder of the silent auction. Dodie Edwards was the auctioneer. Nona Corzelli announced the CWU choir was asked to sing at the State Assembly to be held next year at Lake William Christian Center in Collinsville.

The next meeting of CWU will be the installation of new officers at the Namoli United Methodist Church on Pontoon Road at 11 a.m. on Jan. 23.

## ANNIVERSARIES



Shankel — 50 years

Mr. and Mrs. Jack (Lois) Shankel of Granite City recently celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary. They were married on Nov. 22, 1947 in Mayfield, Kentucky.

## Benko — 25 years

Mr. and Mrs. Stephen (Neva) Benko celebrated their 25th wedding anniversary on Oct. 14, with a party at Nelson Hagnauer Township Hall on Oct. 18, which was attended by 60 close friends and family.

Stephen Benko and Neva Smith were married Oct. 14, 1972, at First Christian Church in Granite City where the Rev. Larry Necessary officiated.

Stephen works for Granite City Steel, while Neva works at Insurance Service Center in Granite City.

They are the parents of 2 children: Stephen and Stephanie.

Neva is the daughter of June Smith of Rolla, Mo. and the late Duane Smith. Steve is the son of Steve and Mary Benko of Granite City.

## CELEBRATION

HOLLIE NELSON was honored on her eighth birthday with a party given by her parents, Ron and Amber Nelson in their home Saturday, Oct. 8.

Pink, white, and purple decorations with a Unicorn ice-cream cake was the party's main theme.

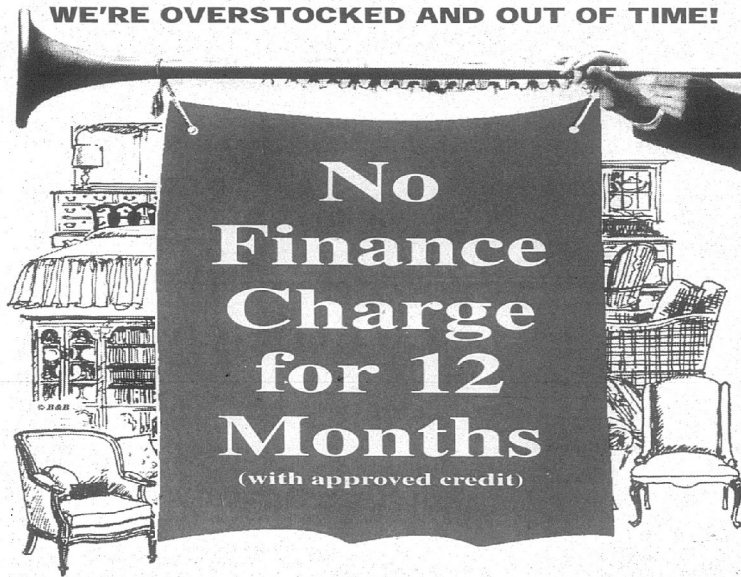
Hollie opened her presents with help from her mom. Refreshments were served to the following

guests: Jamie Nelson, Pete Nelson, Veronica Voegel, Ashley, Kim and Heather Smith, Ron and Libby Wilson, Minnie Kamacho, Janice, Amber, Alyssa and Angela

Macacho, Nikki Skippier, Kelly Brandon and Kayla Vorco, Frank and Samantha Delozier, Sherry Norris and Michelle Trexler, Christine Calender, Debbie, Joshua and Ryan Nelson.

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Bob  
EmigEast St. Louis  
school merger  
has numerous  
ramifications

The recent revival of discussions about combining the two high schools in East St. Louis is naturally drawing the attention of local school administrators, athletic directors and fans.

The concern is, of course, that by combining East St. Louis Senior and Lincoln high schools into one high school that it would create a super power in athletics. The school would be more like a junior college or small college rather than a high school. Who would want to play them?

Certainly, there is strength in numbers. But just because you have more students than another school doesn't necessarily mean you will become unbeatable. After all, you can put only 11 players on the field at any one time in football or only five on the court in basketball. An increase in enrollment, of course, will help in the depth of your team, but the starters in high school sports are usually the ones who carry the teams.

If East St. Louis and Lincoln combined, the one school would be housed at East St. Louis Senior with an enrollment of about 2,000 for the three-class school. There is talk that the ninth-graders would be added to the school, thus making it a four-class school with an enrollment of about 3,000, easily making it the biggest school in southern Illinois.

The increased enrollment would give depth to the school's strong football, basketball and track teams. But would the school be any stronger in such sports as wrestling, volleyball, tennis or golf, in which the Flyers and Tigers have traditionally struggled?

Depending on how the politics and emotions work out, the one school could receive a big shot in the athletic arm immediately, but undoubtedly there would be a weaning out process. Some of the marginal athletes probably would not participate in sports, given the increased student body enrollment, figuring they wouldn't have much of a chance to contribute.

Also, given East St. Louis' recent decrease in school enrollment, that 2,000 or 3,000 high school student figure undoubtedly will keep decreasing to the lower 2,000.

When Granite City went back to one high school in the mid-1980s, the Warriors didn't automatically become a super power. They stayed strong in soccer and wrestling, but their stock in football and basketball didn't jump dramatically.

I haven't seen where recently making Joliet into one school did anything to put "super power" status on that Chicago suburban school.

Berwyn-Cicero Morton has more than 5,000 students — the largest enrollment in the state — but I don't see where it is setting the state world on fire. Sure, numbers are an asset in any program, but a coach has to know how to use those numbers to his advantage. Can he make the 80th player on the varsity as much a part of the team as his superstars? Or will there be dissension among the players who aren't seeing much playing time?

It's far from a done deal that East St. Louis and Lincoln will combine into one school. The politics of the city and the emotions of losing a high school rightfully weigh heavily on the proud people in the city, despite the economic benefits of having just one school.

And if they would combine, there would be many other questions to be answered.

What would be the nickname, for instance? How about the "Flying Tigers"?

What would be the school colors? Orange, which both schools presently have, certainly would be one of the

(See EMIG, Page 3B)

## Oakville wins title at Granite

Furious finish lifts host  
Warriors to second placeBy Patrick C. Heston  
Staff writer

It was a case of too little too late for the Granite City wrestling Warriors on the final day of Granite City High School's 37th annual Holiday Tournament.

The Warriors were in fifth place after Monday's two sessions, trailing first-place Oakville by 33 points. GCHS also trailed Belleville East, Bethalto Civic Memorial and Hazelwood Central.

With a line-up decimated by defectors and grapplers not making weight, Granite City fought hard on Tuesday afternoon, hurdling over three opponents and vaulting into second place behind Oakville.

But the Tigers were too far out in front to be caught, holding a 28½-19½ lead heading into the final evening session on Tuesday.

Oakville won the tournament title — its second — with a team score of 28½. Granite City finished second with 211 points. Third place went to Hazelwood Central (178½ points), followed by Mount Zion (172½), McCluer North (151), Belleville West (142½), Bethalto Civic Memorial

PREP WRESTLING  
GRANITE CITY  
HOLIDAY TOURNAMENT

(128½), Edwardsville (126), Belleville East (122), Francis Howell North (109), Belleville Althoff (104), Triad (84), O'Fallon (80), Cahokia (81½), Carbondale (26) and East St. Louis Lincoln (24).

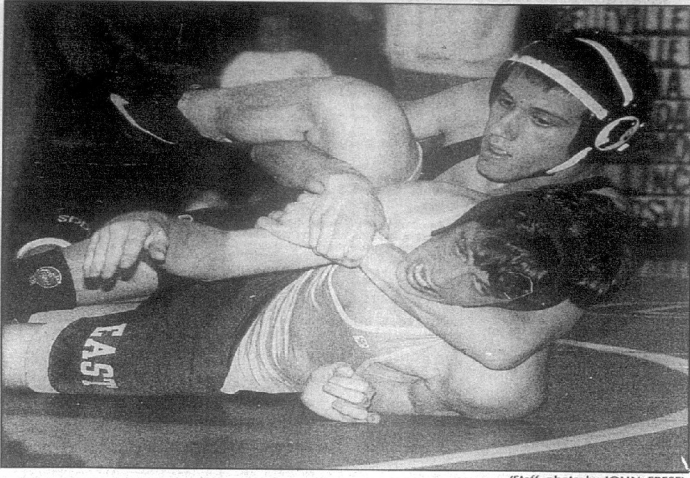
Ten Warriors advanced to Tuesday evening's medal round.

Rich Carney finished sixth at 103 pounds, losing to Matt Sayers of Mount Zion 7-5. Chad Wilson also finished sixth, falling to 19-pound opponent Tim Dillon of Howell North 11-9 in overtime.

Four Granite grapplers settled for fourth-place finishes. John Kelly (130 pounds) fell 9-1 to Blake Dintelman of Belleville Althoff; Ryan Worthen (140) lost a 2-1 decision to Mount Zion's Shane Mendenhall; Mark Derosssett was edged 7-6 by Hazelwood Central's Jeff Neise; and Matt Werner lost a heart-breaker to Derek Stoll of Belleville West.

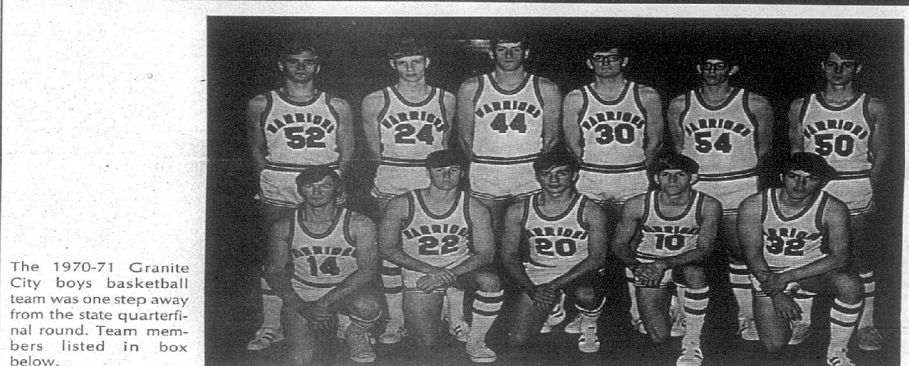
Werner and Stoll battled scoreless through most of

(See WRESTLING, Page 3B)



Granite City's Matt Werner (top) controls Belleville East's Chris Piepmeyer in a first-round match at the Granite City Holiday Classic. Werner placed fourth.

## COVER STORY: GRANITE CITY GREATS



The 1970-71 Granite City boys basketball team was one step away from the state quarterfinal round. Team members listed in box below.

## 1971 Warriors took pride in defense

By Patrick C. Heston  
Staff writer

The 1970-71 basketball season at Granite City High School appeared uneventful as the Warriors began the year by winning only four of their first seven games.

But during the Christmas holidays, things began to click — and click impressively — for the boys of coach Don Deterding.

The Warriors crashed the power-laden Pontiac Holiday Tournament — the oldest holiday basketball tournament in the nation — by upsetting fifth-ranked Chicago Heights Bloom, with all-star Larry McCoy, 66-65 in the semifinals; and then stunning the state's top-ranked team, 41-0 Normal Community, 54-47 for the championship.

The tournament title vaulted Granite City to a No. 10 ranking in statewide polls and served as an omen of what was to be, to this day, the last Warriors basketball team to reach the state tournament.

Deterding, in his fourth season at the GCHS helm, had fashioned a solid quintet which included 6-foot-5 junior forward Terry Ripka (22 points per game), 6-3½ senior center Mike DeRuntz, 6-3 junior forward Chuck Kraus, 6-0 junior guard Joe Wallace and point guard Bob Wiggins.

Other key members of the squad were Kevin Dyer, John Ireland, Gary Lively, John Pithers and Rick Prehn.

The Warriors could score points in a hurry, but the hallmark of the squad was a stingy, sometimes stifling defense.

"Our defense was a match-up defense," said Deterding. "It was that defense that car-

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ried us as a team. It was the major reason we won the Pontiac Tournament.

"I remember Normal's all-state player, Jim Crews, consistently looking at his coach in the second half of the championship game, throwing up his hands as if to ask, 'What am I supposed to do against this defense?'"

"The defense carried us all the way to the state tournament," Deterding added. "It was a defense that suited our team well, and the kids took great pride in playing that

The last Granite City High School boys basketball team to take part in a state tournament game was the 1970-71 squad, which lost to Paris in the Charleston Super-Sectional, one step away from the state quarterfinals. The team finished with a record of 22-9, including a not-so-overwhelming 6-6 mark for fourth-place in the Southwestern Conference, but the team did win the prestigious Pontiac Holiday Classic and pinned a loss on Normal Community in the process. Members of the team pictured above (from left to right) are: In front — Dan Bixler, Gary Lively, John Ireland, Bob Wiggins, Joe Wallace; In back — Mike DeRuntz, Rick Phren, John Pithers, Terry Ripka, Chuck Kraus and Kevin Dyer.

defense."

Granite City finished fourth in the Southwestern Conference during the 1970-71 campaign, standing 6-6 and trailing Belleville West (11-1), Alton (9-3) and East St. Louis (9-3). At the end of the regular season, the Maroons were ranked 10th in state polls while Alton, led by all-state player Ron Caldwell, was ranked twelfth.

The Warriors came to the postseason with a mark of 17-8 and opened play in the Wood River Regional. GCHS

knocked off Collinsville (53-50), Edwardsville (59-37) and Alton (75-70) to advance to the Edwardsville Sectional.

The 20-8 Warriors met 21-7 East St. Louis in the sectional semifinal, having split a pair of games with the Flyers in conference play. East Side had won big (75-60) early in the year, but Granite City scored a 64-52 victory late in the year.

In a nail-biter to open sectional play, Ripka took an

(See 1971, Page 3B)

Warriors  
eliminate  
KnightsBy Brian Bretsch  
Staff writer

Triad High had the honor of playing in the opening game of the 14th annual Granite City Classic.

On Tuesday, the Knights were part of another first. Triad was the first team eliminated from the tournament.

Granite City topped the winless Knights, 64-44.

"We needed to play three games over here to make this worth us coming over," Triad first-year coach Bob Sudhoff said. "I wish that we — over the years — could be more competitive. I think we have got to get some kids to concentrate on wanting to improve the basketball program. That's our job. We're going to have to get kids to dedicate themselves in the off-season and playing against some good competition. I think we have done some of that, but I don't really think we have gotten down (to all levels)."

It was the second time the Knights (0-8) and the Warriors (7-5) met this season. For the second time, the Warriors upended the Knights.

Both teams were sluggish in the opening quarter of the early morning game. The first quarter ended in a 9-9 tie.

The Warriors quickly rubbed their tired eyes and came out hot in the second quarter. Granite's defense and Triad turnovers helped catapult the Warriors to a 29-11 halftime lead.

"I think our size caused them a lot of problems. They tried to clog it up in the middle," Granite City coach John VanBuskirk said. "The kids just needed to figure it out in the first quarter. A couple of kids made a couple of jumpers from the outside and that helped us open up the middle."

The second-round game assured the Warriors of at least three games in the Classic — a goal Van Buskirk wanted to accomplish coming into the tourney.

The game was also the second consecutive contest in which the Warriors have had a full lineup. Prior to the Classic, Dustin Brewer missed some time because of a wrist injury and Tim Tindall was out with the flu.

Brewer had a team-high 14 points while Tindall added eight. Tim Waller was the

(See WARRIORS, Page 2B)





# Season's Greetings

## Team uses vacation time to help needy families

By Kimberly Haas  
Staff writer

Sleeping late and taking it easy wasn't in the cards for members of the Lancer Hockey Club on the first day of Christmas vacation.

Instead, the team was up early, wrapping presents and getting food together.

However, the presents weren't for parents or siblings and the food wasn't for their Christmas feast — it was all for some families in need.

"Waking up early was kind of harsh but I think it's worth it," said Tahirrek Fitzpatrick, 17.

With the cooperation of the city of Fairview Heights and the village of Swansea, the club was able to obtain names of four needy families.

"I think it's great that we get to help out the community," said Danny Kombrink, 15. About 20 from the junior varsity and varsity East teams were able to help make and deliver the baskets to the families on Dec. 22.

Earlier, the players had collected the donations from their

*"We thought if the players took a leadership role, more people would follow suit."*

Susie Dedmon  
hockey parent

own pantries and from others for the baskets. This is the first year the team, now in its second year, has helped the families, and team members said they would like to continue it in the years to come.

Board members and parents involved with the Lancer Hockey Club Association said they are proud of the leadership role their teenagers have taken with the project.

"There are a lot of families out there with strained situations. We thought if the play-

ers took a leadership role, more people would follow suit," said Susie Dedmon, a parent and board member of the Lancer Hockey Club Association.

"This isn't just hockey, it's people helping people," Dedmon said.

The players said the food baskets allow others to see the people behind the hockey jerseys, too.

"We're proud of them," Dedmon said. "They always work together."

## Nativity scene spared for now

Nathan Detering  
Staff writer

A federal judge will allow the city of Florissant, Mo., to keep its Nativity scene outside the Civic Center — this Christmas season.

But U.S. District Judge Catherine Perry also will allow the American Civil Liberties Union to try to permanently block the city from putting up a nativity scene in future years.

After listening to testimony last week from both ACLU lawyer Denise Lieberman and Florissant lawyer John Hessel, Perry refused to issue a restraining order that would have required the city to take the scene down immediately.

But she set a Jan. 16 date for scheduling a trial on the matter that could result in an injunction permanently forbidding the display.

The Nativity scene is arranged at the entrance to the Civic Center, at Parker Road and Waterford Drive. It includes a stable, hay, Mary, Joseph, the baby Jesus, three

Wise Men and two camels. The scene is surrounded by an assortment of secular holiday symbols: snowmen, reindeer and candy canes.

Florissant Mayor James Eagan called Perry's ruling "a very fair and honest verdict," and said he thought the city had always complied with the law on its nativity display.

"Because of one complaint from someone who doesn't even live in our city we will have to spend taxpayers' dollars to defend this unwarranted situation," Eagan said from the Civic Center after the judge's ruling.

He said the city hadn't received any other complaint calls from Florissant residents about the situation. "Not one negative one. We've gotten supportive calls from as far

away as Affton," Eagan said. Eagan said the display would stay up until shortly after the first of the year, and be taken down long before the next court date.

The ACLU sued the city when a University City resident, Alex Feldman, objected to the Nativity scene after he attended a play at the Civic Center late last month. The ACLU argued that Nativity scenes on public property violated separation of church and state requirements of the U.S. Constitution.

Florissant officials, however, had argued that the Nativity scene was in keeping with past court rulings on such things.

The judge ruled that no "irreparable harm" would be done by the Nativity scene

(See SCENE, Page 5B)

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# Season's Greetings

## Mistletoe has long holiday history

By Grover Brinkman  
Correspondent

Common thievery cuts an ever-wider swath in world society today. But can thievery take place beyond the human realm? In our botany for instance?

Beautiful mistletoe is often called a tree thief by professed botanists who should know better. It does not hurt the parent tree, so the summation that it does is totally without fact.

It happens to be the state flower of Oklahoma.

Its beautiful mysticism dates back to the time of the ancient Druids. Legend and fantasy are interwoven through its centuries of existence. With the year-end holiday season coming up on a calendar, let's discuss its charm for a few moments. Somehow it has long been associated with the Christmas-New Year week-end, not only stateside but worldwide. One may purchase imitation sprigs commercially, some even made of plastic, but there is seldom any comparison with the living plant, cut from the bark of a living tree.

It isn't too easy to find. Yet has a spotty growth from New Jersey to

Mexico. It's best to search for it in late autumn, when the parent trees have shed their leaves. Before the leaf-shedding, it blends in with the green and is hard to discern. When the crown of the parent tree is bare, it stands out.

The custom of kissing under the mistletoe originated in pre-Christ times, among the Celts and Teutons of Northern Europe. One theory also credits the Scandinavians with originating the ritual centuries ago. They believed that the mistletoe had supernatural powers for good, and hung sprigs from the rafters of their rude homes, when either a man or woman walked beneath one of these suspended sprigs, they embraced and kissed. The kiss was not sexual but was supposed to signify peace and love. (It would be hard for today's young computer crowd to accept that, don't you think?)

Still another bit of history traces the kissing act to ancient Roman parties. Still another traces it to a Norse saga in which a handsome god was slain with a sharp spear pointed with mistletoe. Other gods, apparently with the ability to restore the fallen man, chanting rituals to the mistletoe as a life

restorer. All would agree that the fantasy here is very far-fetched.

Some early Christian monks believed that once the mistletoe sprig of green was a plant tree in the forest. They also believed that its wood was used to make the cross, in the crucifixion of Christ, and with that horrendous shame to bear, the tree shriveled to a tiny tuft of green so helpless in its remorse that only birds, eating its sticky berry, had to wipe their bills on the bark of some other tree to make a new birth.

These early Christian monks called mistletoe "The Wood of the Cross" and wore charms made of mistletoe to protect them from both disease and physical danger. Even today in some parts of Europe, mistletoe is spiked to the doors of homes as a protection against all sorts of evil, much as flex signs can still be found on some of the old barns built in the United States by incoming farmers long years ago.

Most of the mistletoe legends still prevalent in the U.S. today were brought here by incoming Europeans. For one thing, these European newcomers believed that the mistletoe found here was a duplicate of the over-

seas species. However, this was an error. Botanists tell us that there are more than 1,300 different strains of mistletoe, worldwide, and the strain growing as a parasite stateside, is far different than strains grown overseas.

The vivid green leaves and tiny white berries make it a beautiful piece of botany, to be used as a decorative plant any time of the year. But the tiny white berries, edible by birds, are poisonous to humans, so keep that holiday sprig of green away from the children. The American Medical Association warns repeatedly that the berries could cause fatalities in small children.

It seems odd that birds can gorge on the berries without regard to their toxicity, while with humans just the opposite is true.

The tiny berries of the mistletoe have a glue-like substance in them, and after birds eat them, it is instinctive that they wipe their bills against the bark of some tree, and this deposits the germ that starts a new plant.

How the white-berried mistletoe became such an important part of our Christmas season will no doubt forever be legendary.

## Scene

(Continued from Page 4B)  
being up for an added few weeks. The ACLU could not prove irreparable harm was conclusive, she said.

But Perry said she would have ordered it taken down if it had been just a Nativity scene.

Lieberman argued before Perry that the Florissant display "sends an unmistakable religious message."

She said the city can't use public tax dollars to promote religious symbols and charged that the city added secular figures to the scene after it realized it might be sued.

"The other secular figures do not neutralize the religious element of the Nativity scene," she told Perry.

Hessel argued that the Nativity scene was not an endorsement of religious belief. "If you don't find it an endorsement you can't order us to remove it. The totality of the scene at the Civic Center conveys one message, and that is, Season's Greetings," Hessel argued before Perry.

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## HOROSCOPE

**Thursday, Jan. 1**  
Happy New Year! Under the Aquarian moon, you can find creative ways to celebrate the first day of the new year. Anything you think you can do, you can, as long as you believe you are entitled to succeed. Pursuing your own happiness is actually a gift to the universe. You can give more to others when you are whole and healthy.

**TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (Jan. 1).** It's a year of remarkable progress! Delays are lifted, which frees you to take dramatic steps. You aren't ready to decide between two relationships, but by March, you must. Having a clear conscience erases doubts and opens you up to the good that is coming. May and June are magic

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months for relationships. Marriage is possible with a Virgo or Libra.

**ARIES (March 21-April 19).** Follow even the most eccentric whim because a discovery awaits you. Power plays at work are only a minor inconvenience, so do not overreact.

Your best bet for fun is quiet family time.

**TAURUS (April 20-May 20).** Substantial advances in your love life kick the year off with plenty of hope and insight. Refuse incomplete information. Teenagers will finally see the light. You have the final say in many matters.

**GEMINI (May 21-June 21).** Approve plans, and make decisions. Nourish the egos of those who have had setbacks. Home repairs need your attention. Children are the focus. They need your steady influence.

**CANCER (June 22-July 22).** Get rest and enjoy meditative moments so you can set your priorities in order. You get results from applying new technology. Strengthen family

bonds tonight by introducing your loved ones to each other.

**LEO (July 23-Aug. 22).** An important break with the past opens a door to the future. You shine at social functions. Acquaintances from out of town have plans that include you. A fellow Leo helps you get the best results on your new project.

**VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22).** When you express gratitude, more comes to you. You impress whomever you wish with punctuality and dependability. Follow logic instead of people. Double-check all outgoing work, especially if figures are involved.

**LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23).** Focus your attention on new interests. Concentrating is difficult, so vary your schedule to

keep alert. A strong friend helps out. A thoughtful little gift will be just the thing to get a relationship back on the right track.

**SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21).** Forces beyond your control may seem to keep a loved one from you, but this is just an illusion and a test. Be understanding, and don't find fault. There is the potential for a financial windfall. You will recover a lost item.

**SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21).** Extend invitations. Luck comes through social events. You are intrigued by a romance but are not thinking realistically about the future. Take yourself seriously and others will, too.

**CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19).** Talk about the hard work

that has gone into a project. Your words are convincing, even when you take an unpopular stand. In matters of the heart, act quickly. Spontaneity is your greatest asset.

**AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18).** Prosperous friends will share their good fortune, so accept graciously. Prepare for momentous occasions, as this new year is filled with them. New friends, lovers and job opportunities are around the bend.

**PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20).** Relationships will begin and end, but you are in total control. A business venture with a friend is lucky. Gemini help you attain your financial goals. Aquarians and Librans offer you love and encouragement.



Laurence Fishburne and Kevin Costner in a scene from the Warner Bros. film "The Postman."

## 'Postman' almost as good as it is long

OK. Before anything else, here's what you've been wondering: Is it better than "Waterworld"?  
Yes, far better.

Kevin Costner goes, well, postal in "The Postman," a sci-fi-framed excursion into a postwar American outback. It is an unsettling, visually stunning examination of what could happen if the U.S. Postal Service became the vehicle for resistance against a megalomaniacal warlord with a taste for rape, violence and tyranny.

"Dances With Postcards?" Nothing so frivolous. In the end, Costner's latest excursion into big-budget filmmaking does disappoint—but only mildly, and only because it's not quite as good as it could have been.

In 2013, a decade after war destroyed the United States and the White House fell during the Battle of Georgetown, only vestiges of American society remain in the Great Northwest. Pockets of humanity struggle through life. Chevron stations sit in decay. Local government is paramount—and alone.

Into this tentative existence comes General Bethlehem (Will Patton), a former copy-machine salesman who epitomizes much of the anti-government anger and militia mentality that pervade the United States today. "War," he says, "gives men like me a chance." Then a drifter (Kevin Costner), thrown into Bethlehem's army while passing through, rolls the mix. While trying to escape, he comes across an abandoned postal truck containing the skeleton, uniformed remains of the postman who drove it. In the back seat, he finds a bag of undelivered mail.

Appropriating the goods, he visits the village of Pine View, Ore., claiming to be a real-life postman—part of the

"Restored United States of America," run by "President Richard Starkey" out of the Metrodome in Minneapolis. Because he carries letters from people long thought dead, he is believed, let in and accepted by the village.

The sheriff, though, is suspicious. "Those people don't need dreams, Mr. Postman," he tells the drifter. "They need something real."

This is strange, because dreams are exactly what these sad once-Americans crave. And Costner provides them, accepting new mail for the first time since the war and promising to return with news of loved ones and the new government. With him he takes Abby (Olivia Williams), whom he has impregnated because her husband, later killed by Bethlehem, cannot.

The drifter's true intentions are unclear, but after a winter in the mountains with Abby he finds that one of Pine View's people, an impassioned young man named Ford Lincoln Mercury (Lance Reddick), has taken the postal message to heart. Ford has created an entire platoon of postal carriers to deliver the mail and carry the mantle of the nonexistent Restored United States to the Northwest—and battle the spreading Bethlehem doctrine in the process.

"The Postman" fascinates in myriad ways. Stephen Wondol's cinematography is breathtaking, depicting an old,

tired land populated not with America's people but with its ghosts. This is a place with its best days behind it, not ahead—a sad parallel of our current obsession with nostalgia: When someone pines for the way things used to be, no one will argue.

Bethlehem's army, too, makes for an engaging exploration of the flip side of being American. He talks of making America rugged again, of giving the drifter the kidnaps a chance at transcending everyday existence and being a part of something bigger—all tactics, of course, of today's far-right movements. In "The Postman," the mail carries a distinct message: Federal government is good for you.

Fate's performance as a young man finding his purpose is moving and memorable. Costner's gentle-giant postman, the reluctant hero, has enough good in him to struggle over the chain of events his lie has initiated. But he also has an instinct to turn and run.

With a wonderful premise, good execution and sometimes competent acting, "The Postman" is undermined primarily by one shortcoming: At nearly three hours, the film needed an editor—badly.

If you can get past that, it is an engaging, thought-provoking tale about exactly what it means to be an American.

## Nielson makes 'Magoo' work

Can a live-action film match the outlandish plot and stunts of a cartoon?

Disney's new "Mr. Magoo" dares viewers to make the comparison, and the answer is clearly yes.

The movie starts and ends with the animated version of the famous nearsighted character, and the live action in between stays right in tune. Subtle it ain't. The movie lives from gag to gag with only the barest of plot in between.

This can get a little old at spots, at least for grown-ups. But there are jewels of inspired scenes here, too, including a closing chase and rescue that's a lot funnier when done with real people than an animator's pen.

Quincy Magoo is played by Leslie Nielsen, best known as clueless cop Frank Drebin in the "Police Squad" TV show and the "Naked Gun" movie series.

Nielson makes Magoo an appealing combination of heartiness and amiability. You gotta root for this guy as he stumbles into a high-stakes jewel theft and joins in pursuit of the criminals.

Along the way are plenty of Magoo gags like mistaking the moving paddles of sternwheel riverboat for an escalator.

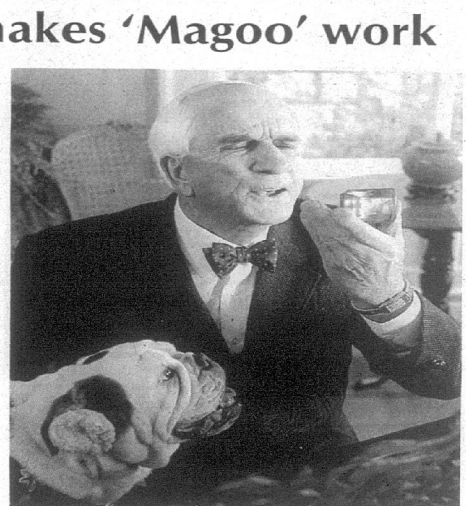
But the character's best scenes have little or nothing to do with his eyesight, as when he impersonates a Colombian mobster to infiltrate a crowd of high-level bad guys, or when he snatches the jewel from the real mobster during the mobster's wedding.

**You gotta root for this guy as he stumbles into a high-stakes jewel theft and joins in pursuit of the criminals.**

Lots of guns are brandished, and jewel thief Luanne Platter (Lynne Collins) cracks an excessive number of people. But nobody gets shot or even injured to any disturbing degree in this live-action cartoon, a plus for parents who want to take the kids.

Another bonus: no long mushy love scenes to make the little ones squirm.

"Mr. Magoo" also features Ernie Hudson of "Ghostbus-



Leslie Nielsen and his buddy, Angus, in a scene from Walt Disney Pictures' "Mr. Magoo."

ters' fame as an ambitious CIA agent and a positively luminous Jennifer Garner as the love interest for Magoo's son, played by Matt Keeslar. The movie was directed by Stanley Tong, who guided Jackie Chan through "Rumble in the Bronx" and "Supercop." The film was produced by Ben Myron.

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**1406 HOMES FOR SALE**  
ILLINOIS/LOUISIANA  
METRO AREA

**1408 HOMES FOR SALE**  
ILLINOIS/LOUISIANA  
METRO AREA

**1410 HOMES FOR SALE**  
ILLINOIS/LOUISIANA  
METRO AREA

**1412 HOMES FOR SALE**  
ILLINOIS/LOUISIANA  
METRO AREA

**1414 HOMES FOR SALE**  
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METRO AREA

**1416 HOMES FOR SALE**  
ILLINOIS/LOUISIANA  
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**1418 HOMES FOR SALE**  
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**1420 HOMES FOR SALE**  
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**1422 HOMES FOR SALE**  
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**1424 HOMES FOR SALE**  
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**1432 HOMES FOR SALE**  
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**1434 HOMES FOR SALE**  
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**1436 HOMES FOR SALE**  
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METRO AREA

**1438 HOMES FOR SALE**  
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**1440 HOMES FOR SALE**  
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**1444 HOMES FOR SALE**  
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**1446 HOMES FOR SALE**  
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**1496 HOMES FOR SALE**  
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**1498 HOMES FOR SALE**  
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METRO AREA

**1500 HOMES FOR SALE**  
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METRO AREA

**1502 HOMES FOR SALE**  
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**1504 HOMES FOR SALE**  
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**Century 21 ROYCE REALTY, INC.**  
2023 Johnson Rd., Granite City, IL  
618-876-5050  
"SERVING THE AREA SINCE 1962"  
WISHING YOU AND YOURS HAPPINESS FOR  
THE HOLIDAY SEASON! START YOUR  
NEW YEAR WITH A NEW HOME!  
MEET OUR REALTORS  
John Royce, Jim Rindings, Judy Browning, Angel Reed, Bettye Smith, Fred Schuman, Kay Lawrence, Gibson  
EACH OFFICE IS INDEPENDENTLY OWNED AND OPERATED  
EQUAL OPPORTUNITY